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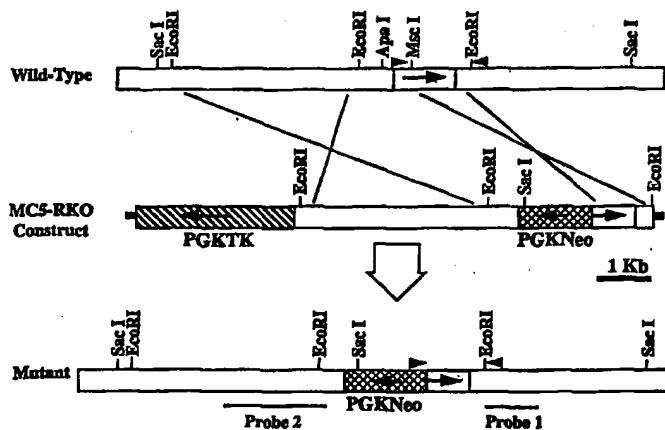
(57) Abstract

This invention provides methods and reagents for developing naturally–occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor, and the use of such agonists and antagonists for treatment and alleviation of dysfunction and disease. The invention specifically provides reagents and methods for developing naturally–occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor termed MC5–R. The naturally–occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for the MC5–R receptor are provided by the invention for the treatment, control, amelioration and alleviation of diseases, and dysfunctional and abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders, as well as other diseases relating to exocrine gland disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland disorders including acne and other skin problems. Also provided by the invetion are nucleic acids, constructs, vectors and methods for producing an animal bearing a genetically–disrupted endogenous M5C–R melanocortin receptor, in both the heterozygous and homozygous condition, preferably a rodent and most preferably a mouse. Rodents bearing genetically disrupted MC5–R genes homozygously, termed "gene knockout" rodents in the art, are also advantageously provided.

MAMMALIAN MELANOCORTIN RECEPTORS AND USES

This invention was made with government support under P01HD30236 by the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights in the invention.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1.   Field of the Invention

This invention relates to melanocortin receptors from mammalian species and the genes corresponding to such receptors. Specifically, the invention relates to the use of mammalian melanocortin receptors for the development of naturally-occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor, and the use of such agonists and antagonists for treatment and alleviation of dysfunction and disease. Specifically, the invention relates to development of naturally-occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor termed MC5-R (see U.S. Patent No. 5,622,860, *incorporated by reference*). Such naturally-occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for the MC5-R receptor are provided for the treatment, control, amelioration and alleviation of diseases, and dysfunctional and abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders, as well as other diseases relating to exocrine gland disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland disorders including acne and other skin problems. Also provided by the invention are nucleic acids, constructs, vectors and methods for producing an animal having homozygous disruption of both endogenous MC5-R melanocortin receptors, preferably a rodent and most preferably a mouse. Such rodents, termed "gene knockout"rodents in the art, are also advantageously provided.

2.   Background of the Invention

The proopiomelanocortin (POMC) gene product is processed to produce a large number of biologically active peptides. Two of these peptides, α-melanocyte stimulating hormone (αMSH), and adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH) have well-understood roles in control of melanocyte and adrenocortical function, respectively. Both of these hormones are also found in a variety of forms with unknown functions,

for example, γ-melanocyte stimulating hormone (γMSH), which has little or no ability to stimulate pigmentation (Ling *et al.*, 1979, *Life Sci.* 25: 1773-1780; Slominski *et al.*, 1992, *Life Sci.* 50: 1103-1108). A melanocortin receptor gene specific for each of the αMSH, ACTH and γMSH hormones has been discovered by some of the present

5   inventors *(see* U.S. Patent Nos. 5,280,112 and 5,532,347 and U.S. Application Serial No. 08/044,812, incorporated by reference herein).   In addition, two other melanocortin receptor genes have been discovered by some of the present inventors *(see* Lu *et al,* 1994, *Nature* 371: 799-802, Mountjoy *et al.*, 1994, *Molec. Endocrinol.* 8: 1298-1308) and others *(see* U.S. Patent No. 5,622,860; Gantz *et al.*, 1993, *J Biol.*

10   *Chem.* 268: 15174-15179 and Labbe *et al.*, 1994, *Biochem.* 33: 4543-4549). Thus far, the biological activities of the melanocortin peptides appear to be mediated by a family of five G protein coupled receptors *(see* Cone, 1996 *for a review).*

Along with the well-recognized activities of αMSH in melanocytes and ACTH in adrenal and pituitary glands, the melanocortin peptides also have a diverse array of

15   biological activities in other tissues, including the brain and immune system, and bind to specific receptors in these tissues with a distinct pharmacology *(see* Hanneman *et al.*, in *Peptide Hormone as Prohormones,* G. Martinez, ed. (Ellis Horwood Ltd.: Chichester, UK) pp. 53-82; DeWied & Jolles, 1982, *Physiol. Rev.* 62: 976-1059 for reviews). For example, POMC neurons are present in only two regions of the brain,

20   the arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus, and the nucleus of the solitary tract of the brain stem. Neurons from both sites project to a number of hypothalamic nuclei, including the paraventricular nucleus, lateral hypothalamic area, and ventromedial hypothalamic nucleus. A complete understanding of these peptides and their diverse biological activities requires the isolation and characterization of their corresponding

25   receptors. Some biochemical studies have been reported in the prior art.

Shimuze, 1985, *Yale J. Biol. Med.* 58: 561-570 discusses the physiology of melanocyte stimulating hormone.

Tatro & Reichlin, 1987, *Endocrinology* 121: 1900-1907 disclose that MSH receptors are widely distributed in rodent tissues.

Sola *et al.*, 1989, *J Biol. Chem.* 264: 14277-14280 disclose the molecular weight characterization of mouse and human MSH receptors linked to radioactively and photoaffinity labeled MSH analogues.

Siegrist *et al.*, *1991, J Receptor Res.* 11: 323-331 disclose the quantification of receptors on mouse melanoma tissue by receptor autoradiography.

Cone & Mountjoy, U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347, issued July 2, 1996, disclose the isolation of human and mouse α-MSH receptor genes and uses thereof (incorporated herein by reference).

Cone & Mountjoy, U.S. Patent No. 5,280,112, issued January 18, 1994, disclose the isolation of human and bovine ACTH receptor genes and uses thereof (incorporated herein by reference).

Mountjoy *et al.*, 1992, *Science* 257: 1248-1251 disclose the isolation of cDNAs encoding mammalian ACTH and MSH receptor proteins.

Cone *et al.*, U.S. Serial No. 08/044,812, filed April 8, 1993, disclose the isolation of rat γ-MSH receptor genes and uses thereof (incorporated herein by reference).

The distribution of expression of the known melanocortin receptors has largely fit expectations regarding the known biological activities of the melanocortin peptide ligands encoded by the POMC gene. The MC1-R, or classical MSH receptor, is expressed almost exclusively in melanocytes (Chhajlani and Wikberg, 1992, *FEBS Lett.* 309: 417-420; Mountjoy *et al.*, 1992, *ibid.*), where it regulates melanin synthesis. The MC2-R, or classical ACTH receptor, is expressed primarily in the adrenal cortex (Mountjoy *et al.*, 1992, *ibid.*), where it regulates adrenocortical steroidogenesis (although this receptor is also expressed in adipocytes, explaining the ability of ACTH to stimulate lipolysis). The MC3-R and MC4-R are expressed mainly in the central nervous system in regions that are well-correlated with presumptive terminal fields originating from the two groups of POMC cell bodies in the arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus and the nucleus of the solitary tract of the brainstem (Mountjoy *et al.*, 1994, *ibid.*; Roselli-Rehfuss *et al.*, 1993, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 90: 8856-8860). Recently, it has been shown that MC3-R and MC4-R regulate feeding behavior and metabolism (Fan *et al.*, 1997, *Nature* 385: 165-168; Huszar *et*

3

al., 1997, *Cell* <u>88</u>: 131-141), grooming behavior (Adan *et al.*, 1994), body temperatures (Tatro *et al.*, 1990, *Cancer Res.* <u>50</u>: 1237-1242), and cardiovascular tone (Li *et al.*, 1996, *J. Neurosci.* <u>16</u>: 5182-5188); *see also* U.S. patent application 08/706,281, filed September 4, 1996 and incorporated by reference herein.

5   Numerous peripheral effects of POMC peptides have been reported. For example, removal of the neurointermediate lobe of the pituitary (which produces the POMC peptides) was demonstrated to decrease sebaceous lipid production (Thody and Shuster, 1973, *Nature* <u>245</u>: 207-209). The reduction was fully restored by concomitant α-MSH and androgen administration (Ebling *et al.*, 1975, *J. Endocrinol.*

10   <u>66</u>: 407-412). The lipid content of the preputial gland (a specialized sebaceous gland implicated in pheromone production in rodents; Bronson and Caroom, 1971, *J. Reprod. Fertil.* <u>25</u>: 279-282; Chipman and Alberecht, 1974, *J. Reprod. Fertil.* <u>38</u>: 91-96; Orsulak and Gawienowski, 1972, *Biol. Reproduc.* <u>6</u>: 219-223) has been shown to be stimulated by α-MSH. Injection of α-MSH has been shown to elicit several

15   behavioral changes in the conspecific animals, including altered sexual attraction in male rats (Thody and Wilson, 1983, *Physiol. Behav.* <u>31</u>: 67-72), and modified aggression in male mice due to olfactory cues presumably from the preputial gland (Nowell *et al.*, 1980, *Physiol. Behav.* <u>24</u>: 5-9). High affinity ACTH and MSH binding sites have also been reported to regulate lipolysis in adipocytes (Oelofsen and

20   Ramachandran, 1983, *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* <u>225</u>: 414-421; Ramachandran *et al.*, 1976, *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* <u>428</u>: 339-346) and protein secretion in the lacrimal gland (Jahn, 1982, *Eur. J. Biochem.* <u>126</u>: 623-629; Tatro and Reichlin, 1987, *ibid.*).

          The systemic effects of pituitary-derived peptides have been attributed to ACTH-mediated adrenocortical glucocorticoid production. The primary role of serum-

25   derived ACTH is the regulation of adrenocortical glucocorticoid production. In response to physical or psychological stress, hypothalamic corticotropin releasing hormone stimulates the production of ACTH by anterior pituitary cells. Serum ACTH is elevated 3-5 fold, producing a subsequent 10-100 fold elevation in circulating cortisol or corticosterone. Glucocorticoids then support the response to stress, serving

30   to stimulate hepatic gluconeogenesis and elevate blood glucose, and mobilize amino acid stores from muscle and fatty acids from adipose tissue. Glucocorticoids also have

an important role in the resolution of immune responses, acting on numerous cell types
to reduce inflammation.

One of the melanocortin receptors, termed MC-5, has been found by the
present inventors to be widely-distributed in peripheral tissues, raising the possibility
of non-steroidally mediated systemic effects of MSH/ACTH peptides. This receptor
has been cloned from human, mouse, rat, and sheep, and is highly conserved, being
approximately 80% identical amongst the mammals. Furthermore, the MC5-R is
highly responsive to both α-MSH and ACTH, as determined by EC_{50} values for
elevation of intracellular cAMP or activation of adenylate cyclase. Further
investigation by the present inventors has demonstrated high levels of MC5-R gene
expression in multiple exocrine tissues, including the Harderian, preputial, lacrimal,
and sebaceous glands in rodents. The MC5-R has also been shown to be required for
the production of porphyrins by the Harderian gland, and physiological concentrations
of ACTH were demonstrated to regulate protein secretion by the lacrimal gland *via*
binding to MC5-R.

The present inventors have now produced a mouse by targeted disruption of
the MC5-R gene with a severe defect in water repulsion and thermoregulation due to
decreased production of sebaceous lipids. Analysis of these mice revealed a
requirement for MC5-R gene expression in multiple exocrine glands *in vivo* for the
production of a diverse set of products, including lipids, proteins, and porphyrins, and
suggested the existence of a coordinated system for the regulation of exocrine gland
function by melanocortin peptides, related to thermoregulatory homeostasis, tear
production and the production of skin and hair oils. Thus, these results produced for
the first time in the art a need for the development of MC5-R receptor agonists and
antagonists for the regulation of such biological processes and for the alleviation of
diseases, dysfunctions and abnormal conditions related to exocrine gland function.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the cloning, expression and functional
characterization of mammalian melanocortin receptor genes, particularly mammalian

MC5-R receptor genes, and most preferably human MC5-R receptor genes. The
invention provides methods for identifying and producing naturally-occurring and
synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for the MC5-R receptor gene for the
treatment, control, amelioration and alleviation of diseases, dysfunctional and

5   abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders and diseases, and for exocrine
gland-related disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland
disorders including acne and other skin problems. Also provided by the invention are
nucleic acids, constructs, vectors and methods for producing an animal having
homozygous disruption of both endogenous MC-5 melanocortin receptors, preferably

10   a rodent and most preferably a mouse. Such rodents, termed "gene knockout"rodents
in the art, are also advantageously provided.

In a first aspect is provided a method for assaying any test compound for
binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor. This method of the invention
comprises the steps of:

15   (a)   providing a first primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue
in an animal wherein the melanocortin receptor is expressed in the
tissue from the animal;

(b)   providing a second primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from the
tissue of subpart (a), but derived from an animal carrying a disrupted

20   genetic sequence encoding the melanocortin receptor wherein the
disrupted allele cannot produce the melanocortin receptor in the cell;

(c)   contacting the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic
cell culture of subpart (b) with the test compound;

(d)   detecting binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell

25   culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b); and

(e)   comparing binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic
cell culture of subpart (a) with binding of the test compound to cells of
the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).

In a preferred embodiment, the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R. In a preferred

30   embodiment, the test compound is detectably labeled, most preferably with a
radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label.

In other preferred embodiments of the invention, detection of binding of the test compound is accomplished by detecting the production of a metabolite, most preferably cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) that is produced by the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor. The invention also provides additional methods wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a cAMP responsive element (CRE) transcription factor binding site operatively linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite. In these embodiments, binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor produces expression of the protein that acts on a substrate in the cell to produce a detectable metabolite. Preferred embodiments of such aspects of the invention include cells comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding β-galactosidase, wherein expression of β-galactosidase is induced in the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor.

Additionally, it is preferred that the cells of subpart (b) comprise a genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene that is in a heterozygous condition and most preferably in a homozygous condition.

In another aspect of the methods of the invention, the following additional steps are included:

(f)   contacting the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subparts (a) and (b) with a detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist prior to contacting the eukaryotic cell cultures with the test compound;

(g)   comparing binding the detectably labeled melanocortin agonist or antagonist in the presence and absence of the test compound for each of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subparts (a) and (b); and

(h)   comparing inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) with inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).

In a preferred embodiment, the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R. In preferred embodiments, the detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist is detectably labeled with a radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label. In other preferred embodiments of the invention, detection of binding of the test compound is accomplished by detecting the production of a metabolite, most preferably cAMP that is produced by the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor. The invention also provides additional methods wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a CRE transcription factor binding site operatively linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite. In these embodiments, binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor produces expression of the protein that acts on a substrate in the cell to produce a detectable metabolite. Preferred embodiments of such aspects of the invention include cells comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding β-galactosidase, wherein expression of β-galactosidase is induced in the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor.

In these aspects the invention it is also preferred that the cells of subpart (b) comprise a genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene that is in a heterozygous condition and most preferably in a homozygous condition.

The invention also provides a recombinant expression construct comprising a portion of a nucleic acid encoding a melanocortin receptor gene, covalently linked to a nucleic acid comprising 5' or 3' untranslated sequence flanking the melanocortin receptor gene, a first selectable marker covalently linked immediately adjacent to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, and a second selectable marker covalently linked distal to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, wherein introduction of the recombinant expression construct into a eukaryotic cell produces a cell having a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by homologous recombination of the recombinant expression construct into the endogenous melanocortin receptor gene. In preferred embodiments, the melanocortin gene is MC5-R, the first selectable marker

comprises a nucleic acid encoding a *neo*, *hyg*^{R}, or *gpt* gene and the second selectable marker comprises a nucleic acid encoding a herpesvirus thymidine kinase gene.

The invention also provides eukaryotic cells transformed with the recombinant expression constructs of the invention, most preferably embryonic stem cells, wherein
5   the cells comprise a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by homologous recombination of the recombinant expression construct into the endogenous melanocortin receptor gene.

Also provided are transgenic animals comprising a cell in a tissue of the animal, most preferably a germ cell, wherein an endogenous melanocortin receptor
10   gene is disrupted by homologous recombination of a recombinant expression construct of the invention into the endogenous melanocortin receptor gene. In preferred embodiments, the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is MC5-R, preferably in a heterozygous condition and most preferably in a homozygous condition.

15   The invention also provides methods for assaying a test compound for binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor the following steps:

(a)   providing a cell panel comprising a first mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC1-R receptor, a second mammalian cell
20   comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC2-R receptor, a third mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC3-R receptor, a fourth mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct
25   encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC4-R receptor, wherein each mammalian cell expresses the melanocortin receptor encoded by the recombinant expression construct comprising the cell, and a fifth mammalian cell culture comprising a primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue in an animal expressing a
30   mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC5-R receptor;

(b)   contacting each of the cells of the panel with an agonist or antagonist

of the mammalian melanocortin receptor in an amount sufficient to

produce a detectable metabolite in the cells that bind the agonist or

antagonist, in the presence or absence of a test compound; and

5   (c)   detecting the amount of the metabolite produced in each cell in the

panel in the presence of the test compound with the amount of the

metabolite produced in each cell in the absence of each test compound.

Panels of cells according to subpart (a) are also provided by the invention.

The invention advantageously provides methods and reagents for detecting,

10   characterizing and developing melanocortin receptor agonists and antagonists, most

preferably MC5-R receptor agonists and antagonists, for producing pharmaceutical

compositions for the alleviations of exocrine gland-related disorders, including but not

limited to acne, other sebaceous gland skin disorders and diseases and lacrimal gland

disorders such as "dry eye" condition. The production of mice homozygous for a

15   genetically-disrupted melanocortin receptor, most preferably MC5-R receptor, enables

the production of primary and immortalized cell and tissue cultures from such animals

that can be used in comparison with similarly produced cultures from wild-type and

heterozygous melanocortin disrupted mice for precise analysis and characterization of

melanocortin receptor agonists and antagonists. The methods of the invention also

20   enable the production of equivalent mice homozygous for genetically-disrupted

melanocortin receptors of the other known melanocortin receptor types, and the use

of such mice in cognate methods for developing agonist and antagonist compounds and

pharmaceutical compositions specific for each of the known melanocortin receptors.

In addition, the methods of the present invention can be used with any cell surface

25   receptor, including additional and as yet uncharacterized melanocortin receptors.

Specific preferred embodiments of the present invention will become evident

from the following more detailed description of certain preferred embodiments and the

claims.

30

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1A and 1B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 3) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 4) sequence of the mouse melanocyte stimulating hormone receptor gene (MC1-R).

Figures 2A and 2B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 5) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 6) sequence of the human melanocyte stimulating hormone receptor gene (MC1-R).

Figures 3A through 3C illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 7) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 8) sequence of the human adrenocorticotropic hormone receptor gene (MC2-R).

Figures 4A and 4B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 9) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 10) sequence of the bovine adrenocorticotropic hormone receptor gene (MC2-R).

Figures 5A and 5B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 11) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 12) sequence of the rat melanocortin-3 receptor (MC3-R).

Figures 6A through 6C illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 15) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 16) sequence of the human melanocortin-4 receptor gene (MC4-R).

Figures 7A and 7B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 17) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 18) sequence of the rat melanocortin-5 receptor gene (MC5-R).

Figure 8 shows a graph of intracellular cAMP accumulation resulting from melanocyte stimulating hormone receptor agonist binding in human 293 cells transfected with αMSH receptor-encoding recombinant expression construct.

Figure 9 illustrates the cAMP response of mouse Y1 cells to binding of melanocortin peptides to human melanocortin-2 (ACTH) receptor, as measured using the β-galactosidase assay described in Example 3.

Figure 10 illustrates the results of competition binding experiments of melanocortin peptides to cells expressing a recombinant expression construct encoding the rat melanocortin-3 receptor.

Figures 11A through 11C illustrate the results of experiment showing intracellular cAMP accumulation caused by receptor-ligand binding in human 293 cells expressing the MC3-R receptor.

Figure 12 shows a graph of intracellular cAMP accumulation resulting from melanocortin peptide binding to human melanocortin-4 receptor agonists in human 293 cells transfected with a MC4-R receptor-encoding recombinant expression construct.

Figure 13 illustrates the results of cAMP accumulation (AC) and cAMP-dependent β-galactosidase (β-gal) assays of melanocortin peptide binding to a rat melanocortin-5 receptor.

Figure 14 illustrates the structure of the pCRE/ β-gal plasmid.

Figures 15A and 15B illustrate the results of the β-galactosidase-coupled, colorimetric melanocortin receptor binding assay using cells expressing each of the MC1-R, MC3-R, MC4-R or MC5-R receptors and contacted with αMSH or a variety of αMSH analogues.

Figure 16 shows a schematic drawing of the "knockout" construct described in Example 5. The shaded box in the wild-type allele represents the single coding exon of the murine MC5-R, with arrows in the boxes indicating the orientation of transcription. Small arrows above the boxes in the wild-type and mutant alleles stand for the sequences used as PCR primers for genotyping. The schematic drawing labeled "Mutant" shows the arrangement of mouse chromosomal sequences and pMC5-RKO sequences in homologous recombinant bearing mice. The sequences labeled "Probe 1" and "Probe 2" correspond to the probes used in Southern analysis of homologous recombinant bearing mice.

Figures 17A and 17 B shows the results of Southern analysis from different genotypes of F1 offspring using Probe 1 and Probe 2 shown in Figure 16. Genomic DNA of 21-day old progeny mice were isolated and their genotypes were determined using the mixture of three PCR primers as indicated in Figure 16 and described in Example 5. Ten μg of DNA from putative wild-type, heterozygous and homozygous mutant mice was digested with *Sac* I for Southern analysis with probes 1 and 2. A 4.5 kb band shown in Figure 17A and a 5.5 kb band shown in Figure 17B represent the mutant, disrupted MC5-R allele.

Figure 17C shows the results of northern analysis of MC5-R mRNA expression in skeletal muscle tissue. Poly A^+ mRNA from 250 μg of total RNA was loaded in

each lane. After electrophoresis and transfer, the membrane was probed with a radioactively-labeled probe comprising a 650 bp *Apa* I/*Msc* I fragment.

Figure 17D shows radioligand binding to skeletal muscle membranes. Fresh skeletal muscles of the hind limbs from individual mice of each genotype were minced, homogenized, and crude plasma membranes isolated as described in Example 5. Total and non-specific binding was measured after incubation of the membranes with ^{125}I-DMP-α-MSH (10,000 cpm/sample) in the presence or absence of 1 μM α-MSH. After extensive washing, specific binding was calculated and normalized to total protein.

Figures 18A through 18F show defects in water repulsion and thermoregulation in MC5-RKO mice. Figure 18A illustrate that MC5-RKO mice dry more slowly after a 3 minute swim. The picture taken about 15 minutes after swimming in 32°C water. The two wet mice on the left are MC5-RKO mice. The other two are wild-type mice. Figure 18B shows impaired water repulsion in MC5-RKO mice. MC5-RKO mice absorb more water during the swim than wild-type controls. Removal of hair lipids with 5% SDS wash increases water absorption in wild-type mice. Figure 18C shows that increased water absorption induces hypothermia in MC5-RKO mice and in shampooed wild-type mice. Figure 18D shows MC5-RKO and shampooed wild-type mice exhibit hypothermia in cold air. Mice were put in 5-6°C cold room without bedding in a Plexiglas cage. Colonic temperature was measured every 30 minutes. Figure 18E shows reduced sebum production by 15-20% in MC5-RKO mice. Figure 18F shows significant deficit in sterol ester lipids in the MC5-RKO mouse. Hair lipids are extracted as described in Example 5. Lipids were resolved in Silica Gel 60 plate (20 x 20 cm) with hexanes/benzenes (55:45, v/v). Each lane contained 150 μg of total lipids.

Figures 19A through 19E are *in situ* hybridization assays showing that MC5-R is highly abundant in exocrine glands and present at low levels in a number of other tissues. Figure 19A shows that MC5-R is specifically expressed in sebaceous gland in the skin. Five μM sections were made from paraffin-embedded skin tissues. After proteinase K digestion and acetylation, the sections were probed with antisense (Figure 19A, Panels A though C) or sense (Figure 19A, Panel D) riboprobe of the deleted region in MC5-RKO mice. Hybridization of MC5-R was found in wild-type skin

(Figure 19A, Panels A and C) but not in MC5-RKO skin (Figure 19A, Panel B). No hybridization was detected by sense probe of the same sequence in mild-type skin (Figure 19A, Panel D).

Figure 19B illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA is expressed at low levels in a number of neuronal and non-neuronal tissues. Forty μg of total RNA was loaded in each lane (10 μg for pituitary, thyroid adrenal).

Figure 19C illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA is highly expressed in preputial, Harderian and lacrimal glands. Ten μg of total RNA is loaded in each lane.

Figure 19D illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA levels in preputial gland are much higher than in the skin. Twenty ug of total RNA was loaded in each lane.

Figure 19E illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA is not present in preputial and Harderian gland of MC5-RKO mice. Ten μg of total RNA was loaded in each lane. The membrane-bound RNA was probed with the 650 bp *Apa* I/*Msc* I MC5-R-derived fragment specifically deleted in MC5-RKO mice.

Figure 20A through 20D illustrate that MC5-R is the only functional melanocortin receptor in several exocrine glands, and the primary melanocortin receptor in the spinal cord.

Figure 20A shows that specific binding sites are present in plasma membrane of Harderian gland, preputial gland and lacrimal gland. The crude membranes were prepared as described in Example 5. The specific binding activity in different tissues does not necessarily represent the levels of expression, as the purity of the membrane preparation may be different between samples form different tissue.

Figure 20B shows NDP-α-MSH binding is markedly decreased in the spinal cord of MC5-RKO mice.

Figure 20C shows lack of α-MSH and NDP-α-MSH regulated cAMP production in preputial glands from MC5-RKO mice. Glands were excised and incubated with DMEM containing α-MSH (50 μM), NDP-α-MSH (100 μM), or the two combined. Twenty minutes later, the glands were snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and subsequently homogenized in 60% ethanol. After centrifugation, the cAMP

supernatant was vacuum dried. The quantity of cAMP in each sample was determined
by a cAMP RIA kit purchased from NEN.

Figure 20D shows lack of α-MSH and NDP-α-MSH regulated cAMP
production in Harderian glands from MC5-RKO mice.

Figure 21A shows MC5-R deficiency results in lacrimal gland dysfunction.
MC5-RKO mice lack of melanocortin-stimulated protein secretion in lacrimal gland

Figure 21B shows a dose-response curve of ACTH stimulated protein secretion
in lacrimal gland of C57/Bl/6 mice.

Figures 22A and 22B show MC5-R deficiency results in markedly reduced
porphyrin content in the Harderian gland. Figure 22A is a comparison of UV
illuminated fluorescence between extracts from Harderian gland of individual MC5-
RKO mice and wild-type or heterozygous controls. Figure 22B is a comparison of
porphyrins from a pair of Harderain gland by scanning spectrophotometry, wherein
one-quarter of the total extracts from individual pairs of glands in 0.5 ml 0.25 N HCl
was scanned. The two absorbance peaks at 402 and 550 nm are characteristics of
porphyrins.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The term "melanocortin receptor" as used herein reference to proteins having
the biological activity of any of the disclosed melanocortin receptors, including the
MC1-R (SEQ ID Nos.: 3, 4, 5 and 6, also disclosed in co-owned U.S. Patent
5,532,347, incorporated by reference), MC2-R (ACTH; SEQ ID Nos.: 7, 8, 9 and 10,
also disclosed in co-owned U.S. Patent 5,554,729, incorporated by reference), MC3-R
(SEQ ID Nos.: 11 and 12, also disclosed in co-owned U.S. Serial No. 08/044,812,
incorporated by reference), MC4-R (SEQ ID Nos.: 15 and 16) or MC5-R (SEQ ID
Nos.: 17 and 18) receptors, as well as naturally-occurring and genetically-engineered
allelic variations in these sequences. In particular, primary and immortalized cultures
of mammalian cells expressing native melanocortin receptors, as well as mammalian
cells produced as described herein by recombinant genetic techniques and expressing
heterologous melanocortin receptors, are encompassed by this invention. For the

purposes of this invention, the terms "native" and "endogenous" will be understood to describe melanocortin receptor gene expression in cells expressing the naturally-occurring melanocortin gene incorporated as part of the cells of chromosome and inherited without intervention by man. In contrast, the term "heterologous" or

5   "genetically engineered" when applied to a melanocortin receptor gene will be understood to encompass melanocortin receptor genes and sequences introduced into a cell by genetic engineering or other means, thereby providing the cell with the capacity to express a hitherto unexpressed gene derived from another cell, and preferably a melanocortin receptor gene from a different mammalian species.

10   Cloned nucleic acid provided by the present invention may encode MC receptor proteins of any species of origin, including, for example, mouse, rat, rabbit, cat, and human, but preferably the nucleic acid provided by the invention encodes MC receptors of mammalian, most preferably rodent and human, origin.

               The production of proteins such as the MC receptors from cloned genes by

15   genetic engineering means is well known in this art. The discussion which follows is accordingly intended as an overview of this field, and is not intended to reflect the full state of the art.

               DNA which encodes MC receptors may be obtained, in view of the instant disclosure, by chemical synthesis, by screening reverse transcripts of mRNA from

20   appropriate cells or cell line cultures, by screening genomic libraries from appropriate cells, or by combinations of these procedures, as illustrated below. Screening of mRNA or genomic DNA may be carried out with oligonucleotide probes generated from the MC receptor gene sequence information provided herein. Probes may be labeled with a detectable group such as a fluorescent group, a radioactive atom or a

25   chemiluminescent group in accordance with know procedures and used in conventional hybridization assays, as described in greater detail in the Examples below. In the alternative, MC receptor gene sequences may be obtained by use of the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) procedure, with the PCR oligonucleotide primers being produced from the MC receptor gene sequences provided herein. *See* U.S. Patent Nos.

30   4,683,195 to Mullis *et al.* and 4,683,202 to Mullis.

MC receptor proteins may be synthesized in cells from tissues that endogenously express any particular melanocortin receptor species. In particular, primary and immortalized cells are derived from tissues and organs of a mammal to provide cultures of such cells for use with the methods of the invention as disclosed
5 herein, using methods well known in the art. *See* Tissue Culture, Academic Press, Kruse & Patterson, editors (1973). Any primary or immortalized culture expressing an endogenous (as opposed to heterologous or genetically-engineered) melanocortin receptor can be used, provided such cells produce an amount of the melanocortin receptor protein that is detectable using receptor binding assays as described herein
10 and known in the art.

Alternatively, host cells transformed with a recombinant expression construct comprising a nucleic acid encoding each of the receptors disclosed herein can be used to provide a homogeneous culture of MC receptor expressing cells. Recombinant expression constructs comprising the MC receptor coding sequences as disclosed
15 herein can also be comprised of a vector that is a replicable DNA construct. Vectors are used herein either to amplify DNA encoding an MC receptor and/or to express DNA which encodes an MC receptor. For the purposes of this invention, a recombinant expression construct is a replicable DNA construct in which a DNA sequence encoding an MC receptor is operably linked to suitable control sequences
20 capable of effecting the expression of the receptor in a suitable host cell. The need for such control sequences will vary depending upon the host selected and the transformation method chosen. Generally, control sequences include a transcriptional promoter, an optional operator sequence to control transcription, a sequence encoding suitable mRNA ribosomal binding sites, and sequences which control the termination
25 of transcription and translation. Amplification vectors do not require expression control domains. All that is needed is the ability to replicate in a host, usually conferred by an origin of replication, and a selection gene to facilitate recognition of transformants. See, Sambrook *et al.*, 1990, Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual (Cold Spring Harbor Press: New York).

30 Also specifically provided by the invention are reporter expression constructs comprising a nucleic acid encoding a protein capable of expressing a detectable

phenotype, such as the production of a detectable reporter molecule, in a cell expressing the construct. Such constructs can be used for producing recombinant mammalian cell lines in which the reporter construct is stably expressed. Most preferably, however, the reporter construct is provided and used to induce transient expression over an experimental period of from about 18 to 96 hrs in which detection of the reporter protein produced detectable metabolite comprises an assay. Such reporter expression constructs are also provided wherein induction of expression of the reporter construct is controlled by a responsive element operatively linked to the coding sequence of the reporter protein, so that expression is induced only upon proper stimulation of the responsive element. Exemplary of such a responsive element is a cAMP responsive element (CRE), which induces expression of the reporter protein as a result of an increase in intracellular cAMP concentration. In the context of the present invention, such a stimulus is associated with melanocortin receptor binding, so that a reporter construct comprising one or more CREs is induced to express the reporter protein upon binding of a receptor agonist to a MC receptor in a recombinantly transformed mammalian cell. Preferably, such reporter gene constructs are genetically engineered into cells expressing a melanocortin receptor of the invention, either heterologous or endogenous as these terms have been defined herein, thereby providing a recombinant cell capable of producing a detectable product upon agonist or antagonist receptor binding to the melanocortin receptor expressed by the cell.

Vectors useful for practicing the present invention include plasmids, viruses (including phage), retroviruses, and particularly integratable DNA fragments (i.e., fragments integratable into the host genome by homologous recombination). The vector may replicate and function independently of the host genome, or more preferably, may, in some instances, integrate into the genome itself. Suitable vectors will contain replicon and control sequences which are derived from species compatible with the intended expression host. Transformed host cells are cells which have been transformed or transfected with recombinant expression constructs made using recombinant DNA techniques and comprising mammalian MC receptor-encoding sequences. Preferred host cells are human 293 cells. Preferred host cells for the MC-

2 (ACTH) receptor are Y1 cells (subclone OS3 or Y6). Transformed host cells are chosen that are capable of expressing functional MC receptor protein introduced using the recombinant expression construct. When expressed, the mammalian MC receptor protein will typically be located in the host cell membrane. See, Sambrook *et at., ibid.*

5   Cultures of cells derived from multicellular organisms are a desirable host for recombinant MC receptor protein synthesis. In principal, any higher eukaryotic cell culture is workable, whether from vertebrate or invertebrate culture. However, mammalian cells are preferred, as illustrated in the Examples. Propagation of such cells in cell culture has become a routine procedure. See Tissue Culture, Academic

10   Press, Kruse & Patterson, editors (1973). Examples of useful host cell lines are human 293 cells, VERO and HeLa cells, Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell lines, mouse Y1 (subclone OS3), and W1138, BHK, COS-7, CV, and MDCK cell lines. Human 293 cells are preferred.

          Cells expressing mammalian MC receptor proteins made endogenously or from

15   heterologous cloned genes genetically engineered in accordance with the present invention may be used for screening agonist and antagonist compounds for MC receptor activity. Competitive binding assays are well known in the art and are described in the Examples below. Such assays are useful for drug screening of MC receptor agonist and antagonist compounds, as detected in receptor binding assays as

20   described below.

          The invention also provides membrane preparation from cells expressing MC receptors either endogenously or as the result of transformation with a recombinant expression construct, as described herein, useful for screening agonist or antagonist compounds for MC receptor binding activity, or for determining the amount of a MC

25   receptor agonist or antagonist drug in a solution (*e.g.*, blood plasma or serum). For example, cells expressing a melanocortin receptor protein, most preferably an MC5-R receptor protein, either endogenously or as the result of transformation with a recombinant expression construct of the present invention, are obtained according to the methods of the invention, the cells lysed, and the membranes from those cells used

30   to screen compounds for MC receptor binding activity. Competitive binding assays in which such procedures may be carried out are well known in the art. By selection

of host cells that express only one endogenous melanocortin receptor, or that do not ordinarily express a melanocortin receptor and are transformed with a recombinant expression construct of the invention encoding such a melanocortin receptor, preferably from a heterologous mammalian species, pure preparations of membranes containing only that melanocortin receptor can be obtained. Further, membranes obtained from such cells can be used in binding studies wherein the drug dissociation activity is monitored.

Alternatively, intact cells can be used to detect, monitor and characterize melanocortin receptor agonists and antagonists by assaying for a cellular product, either naturally-occurring or encoded by a reporter gene genetically engineered into the recipient cell, that is produced by the cell upon melanocortin receptor binding. These and other receptor-binding assays, including assays detecting transcription of a gene sensitive to melanocortin receptor agonist binding, binding of radiolabeled agonist or antagonist species to a melanocortin receptor or competition binding variations thereof, and the detection of an enzymatic or antigenic activity mediated by a protein produced as the result of melanocortin receptor binding are provided by the invention and will be understood in the art as being equivalent to the methods explicitly disclosed herein.

Also provided by the methods of the invention are reagents and methods for producing an animal, preferably a rodent and most preferably a mouse, bearing a homozygous disruption of both allelic copies of a particular melanocortin receptor, resulting in genetic ablation of the particular melanocortin receptor gene. Preferably, the melanocortin receptor is the MC5-R receptor and most preferably the melanocortin receptor is the mouse MC5-R receptor. Reagents provided by the invention include so-called "knockout" recombinant genetic constructs comprising a defective, most preferably a deleted, species of the melanocortin receptor encoding sequences, additional homologous sequences 5' and 3' from the defective coding sequences, and selectable markers for selecting clones of cells bearing the construct. Such selectable markers can be any known selectable gene, such as the genes for neomycin resistance, hygromycin resistance, the guanine phosphotransferase gene of *E. coli* (*Ecogpt*) and others known in the art. Particularly preferred are constructs comprising a herpesvirus

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thymidine kinase gene introduced in an orientation that permits selection *against* transformed or transfected cells having the construct incorporated randomly (as opposed to specifically by homologous recombination) into the host cell DNA. These constructs of the invention are provided to maximize the likelihood that recombinant

5   cells will incorporate the construct DNA into host cell genomic DNA by homologous recombination that disrupts at least one allele of the target MC receptor.

Also provided by the invention are cultures of cells transformed with such "knockout" recombinant genetic constructs, preferably stem cells and most preferably embryonic stem (ES) cells capable of being introduced into a mammalian blastocyst

10   and being incorporated into the cells of the organism upon development. The invention therefore also provides such transgenic animals produced thereby, most preferably having at least one of the endogenous melanocortin receptor genes disrupted by homologous recombination by the "knockout" recombinant genetic construct. The invention also provides colonies of inbred and outbred mice bearing a disrupted species

15   of a melanocortin receptor in heterozygous (*i.e.*, on only one chromosome) or homozygous (*i.e.*, on both homologous chromosomes) condition, most preferably wherein the cells in the tissues of the animals bearing the disrupted species include germ cells (*i.e.*, sperm cells, egg cells and their progenitors), thereby providing genetic transmission of the disrupted allele by mating. Most preferred are so-called

20   "knockout" mice bearing the disrupted melanocortin receptor gene in their germ cells in the homozygous condition.

The invention also provides primary and immortalized cell cultures derived from tissues and organs of melanocortin "knockout" rodents, preferably mice, provided by the invention. Preferably, such rodents are mice bearing disrupted alleles

25   of the melanocortin MC5-R receptor in the homozygous conditions, thereby providing primary and immortalized cell and organ cultures that are functionally and genetically null for MC5-R receptor expression. Such primary and immortalized cell and organ cultures thereby provide means and assays for comparing the effects of agonist and antagonist binding to cells endogenously or heterologously expressing the MC5-R

30   receptor and developmentally equivalent cells that cannot express this receptor due to the homozygous engineered MC5-R gene disruption. Use of said primary and

immortalized cell and organ cultures in assays for detecting and characterizing melanocortin receptor binding to agonist and antagonist compounds is provided by the invention.

Thus, the invention provides a variety of methods that are screening assays for detecting and characterizing agonists and antagonists of melanocortin receptor, most preferably MC5-R receptors.

The invention also provides an assay system, comprising a panel of cells expressing each of the known melanocortin receptors either endogenously or as recombinant mammalian cells heterologously expressing each of the MC receptors disclosed herein, wherein the panel is constructed of at least one cell line expressing an MC receptor, most preferably an MC5-R receptor. The invention provides such panels also comprising a detection means for detecting receptor agonist or antagonist binding, such as the reporter expression constructs described herein, and using direct binding and competition binding assays as described in the Examples below. In the use of this panel, each MC receptor is assayed for agonist or antagonist patterns of binding a test compound, and a characteristic pattern of binding for all MC receptors is thereby determined for each test compound. This pattern is then compared with known MC receptor agonists and antagonists to identify new compounds having a pattern of receptor binding activity associated with a particular behavioral or physiological effect.

The invention provides an *in vitro* assay to characterize MC5-R agonists/antagonists as a preliminary and economical step towards developing exocrine gland modulating drugs for use *in vivo*.

The MC receptor binding agonists, antagonists and analogues provided using the methods of the invention, and in particular those analogues that are MC5-R receptor agonists, antagonists or analogues are provided to be used in methods of treating, controlling, ameliorating and alleviating diseases, and dysfunctional and abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders, as well as other diseases relating to exocrine gland disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland disorders including acne and other skin problems. Specific examples of uses for the MC receptor binding analogues of the invention include but are not

22

limited to treatment of skin disorders such as acne and other diseases related to the

over- or under-production of sebaceous gland products; for the treatment of ocular

disorders related to the production or lack thereof of tears and ocular lubrication; and

diseases and disorders in animals related to estrus, mating, gestation or other

5   pheromone-related disorders.

The Examples which follow are illustrative of specific embodiments of the

invention, and various uses thereof. They set forth for explanatory purposes only, and

are not to be taken as limiting the invention.

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EXAMPLE 1

Isolation of an αMSH Receptor Probe by Random
PCR Amplification of Human Melanoma cDNA Using
Degenerate Oligonucleotide Primers

15   In order to clone novel G-protein coupled receptors, cDNA prepared from

RNA from human melanoma cells was used as template for a polymerase chain

reaction (PCR)-based random cloning experiment. PCR was performed using a pair

of degenerate oligonucleotide primers corresponding to the putative third and sixth

membrane regions of G-protein coupled receptors (Libert et al., 1989, *Science* 244:

20   569-72; Zhou et al., 1990, *Nature* 347: 76-80). The PCR products obtained in this

experiment were characterized by nucleotide sequencing. Two novel sequences

representing novel G-protein-coupled receptors were identified.

PCR amplification was performed as follows. Total RNA was isolated from

a human melanoma tumor sample by the guanidinium thiocyanate method (Chirgwin

25   et al., 1979, *Biochemistry* 18: 5294-5299). Double-stranded cDNA was synthesized

from total RNA with murine reverse transcriptase (BRL, Gaithersburg, MD) by oligo-

dT priming (Sambrook et al., ibid.). The melanoma cDNA mixture was then subjected

to 45 cycles of PCR amplification using 500 picomoles of degenerate oligonucleotide

primers having the following sequence:

30   Primer III (sense):

GAGTCGACCTGTG(C/T)G(C/T)(C/G)AT(C/T)(A/G)CIIT(G/T)GAC(C/A)G(C/
G)TAC

                                                               (SEQ ID NO: 1)

and

Primer VI (antisense):

CAGAATTCAG(T/A)AGGGCAICCAGCAGAI(G/C)(G/A)(T/C)GAA

5   (SEQ ID NO: 2)

in 100 μL of a solution containing 50 mM Tris-HCI (pH 8.3), 2.5 mM MgCl$_2$, 0.01

% gelatin, 200 μM each dNTP, and 2.5 Units of *Taq* polymerase (Saiki *et al.*, 1988,

Science 239: 487-491). These primers were commercially synthesized by Research

Genetics Inc. (Huntsville, AL). Each PCR amplification cycle consisted of incubations

10   at 94°C for 1 min (denaturation), 45°C for 2 min (annealing), and 72°C for 2 min

(extension).

        Amplified products of the PCR reaction were extracted with phenol/chloroform

and precipitated with ethanol. After digestion with *Eco*RI and *Sal*I, the PCR products

were separated on a 1.2% agarose get. A slice of this gel, corresponding to PCR

15   products of 300 basepairs (bp) in size, was cut out and purified using glass beads and

sodium iodide, and the insert was then cloned into a pBKS cloning vector (Stratagene,

LaJolla, CA).

        A total of 172 of such pbks clones containing inserts were sequenced using

Sequenase (U.S. Biochemical Corp., Cleveland, OH) by the dideoxynucleotide chain

20   termination method (Sanger *et al.*, 1977, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 74: 5463-5467).

Two types of sequences homologous to other G-protein coupled receptors were

identified.

                              EXAMPLE 2A

25   <u>Isolation of a Mouse αMSH (MC1-R) Receptor cDNA</u>

        Probes isolated in Example 1 was used to screen a Cloudman melanoma cDNA

library in order to isolate a full-length cDNA corresponding to the cloned probe. One

clone was isolated clone was isolated from a library of 5 x 10^7 clones screened as

described below. This clone contained an insert of 2.6 kilobases (kb). The nucleotide

30   sequence of the complete coding region was determined (see co-owned U.S. Patent

No. 5,532,347, incorporated by reference); a portion of this cDNA comprising the

                                     24

coding region was sequenced and is shown in Figures 1A and 1 B (SEQ ID Nos: 3 & 4).

EXAMPLE 2B
Isolation of a Human αMSH (MC1-R) Receptor cDNA

5   In order to isolate a human counterpart of the murine melanocyte αMSH receptor gene disclosed in Example 2A and in co-owned U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347, a human genomic library was screened at high stringency (50% formamide, 42°C) using the human PCR fragments isolated as described in Example 1. An isolated genomic clone was determined to encode an human MSH receptor (SEQ ID NO: 5.;

10   Figures 2A and 2B). The human MSH receptor has a predicted amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 6) that is 75% identical and collinear with the mouse αMSH receptor cDNA sequence. The predicted molecular weight of the human MSH receptor is 34.7kD.

15   ## EXAMPLE 2C

Isolation of a Human ACTH (MC2-R) Receptor cDNA

          For cloning the ACTH receptor (MC2-R), a human genomic library was screened at high stringency (50% formamide, 1M NaCl, 50mM Tris-HCI, pH 7.5, 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 0.2% sodium dodecyl sulfate, 100μg/mL salmon sperm

20   DNA, 10X Denhardt's solution, 42°C), using the human PCR fragments isolated as described in Example 1 herein and U.S. Patent No. 5,280,112, incorporated by reference. A genomic clone was isolated that encodes a highly related G-coupled receptor protein (SEQ ID No: 7 and Figures 3A and 3B). The predicted amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 8) of this clone is 39% identical and also collinear, excluding

25   the third intracellular loop and carboxy-terminal tail, with the human MSH receptor gene product. The predicted molecular weight of this ACTH receptor is 33.9 kilodaltons (kD). This clone was identified as encoding an MC2-R receptor based on its high degree of homology to the murine and human MSH receptors, and the pattern of expression in different tissue types, as described in Example 3 in U.S. Patent

30   5,280,112, incorporated by reference herein.

EXAMPLE 2D

Isolation of a Bovine ACTH (MC2-R) Receptor cDNA

A bovine genomic DNA clone encoding the bovine counterpart of the MC2-R (ACTH) receptor was isolated from a bovine genomic library, essentially as described

5   in Example 2C above, and its nucleotide sequence determined (as shown in Figures 4A and 4B; SEQ ID Nos: 9 & 10).

EXAMPLE 2E

Isolation of a Rat γ-MSH (MC3-R) Receptor cDNA

10   The mouse αMSH receptor cDNA isolated as described in Example 2A and co-owned U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347 was used to screen a rat hypothalamus cDNA library at low stringency (30% formamide, 5X SSC, 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 0.2% sodium dodecyl sulfate, 100μg/mL salmon sperm DNA, and 10% Denhardt's solution) at 42°C for 18h. A 1 kb cDNA clone was isolated and sequenced as

15   described in co-owned U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347, and this clone used to re-screen the rat hypothalamus cDNA library at high stringency (same conditions as above except that formamide was present at 45%). A cDNA clone approximately 2.0 kb in length was isolated and analyzed as described in co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 08/044,812, incorporated by reference; a portion of this cDNA comprising the coding

20   region was sequenced and is shown in Figures 5A and 5B (SEQ ID Nos: 11 & 12).

EXAMPLE 2F

Isolation of a Human MC4-R Receptor DNA

For cloning the MC4-R receptor, a human genomic library was screened at

25   moderate stringency (40% formamide, 1M NaCl, 50mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 0.1 % sodium pyrophosphate, 0.2% sodium dodecyl sulfate, 100μg/mL salmon sperm DNA, 10X Denhardt's solution, 42°C), using rat PCR fragments isolated as described in Example 1 herein, with the exception that the following primers were used for PCR: Primer II (sense):

30   GAGTCGACC(A/G)CCCATGTA(C/T)T(AGT)(C/T)TTCATCTG

(SEQ ID No.:13)

and

Primer VII (antisense):

CAGAATTCGGAA(A/G)GC(A/G)TA(G/T)ATGA(A/G)GGGGTC

(SEQ ID No.:14).

5   A genomic clone was isolated that encodes a highly-related G-coupled receptor

protein (SEQ ID No.:15 and Figures 6A and 6B) on a 1.9kb *Hind*III fragment. The

predicted amino acid sequence (SEQ ID No.:16) of this clone shares 55-61% sequence

identity with human MC3-R and MC5-R receptors, and 46-47% sequence identity with

the human MC1-R and MC2-R (ACTH) receptors.

10

EXAMPLE 2G

Isolation of a Mouse MC5-R Receptor cDNA

One million clones from a mouse 129SVJ genomic library comprising 5 million

clones constructed in the λFixII vector (Stratagene) were screened at low stringency

15   (hybridization in 40% formamide at 42°C, washing performed in 0.5X SSC at 60°C,

as described above in Example 2E) using radiolabeled probes from the rat MC3-R and

MC4-R receptors, as described in Examples 2E and 2F. Positively-hybridizing clones

were isolated and sequenced, and the sequences obtained were compared to previously-

isolated melanocortin receptor clones. One clone, comprising a previously-unknown

20   sequence, was determined to encode the MC5-R melanocortin receptor. The

nucleotide and amino acid sequences of this receptor are shown in Figures 7A and 7B

(SEQ ID Nos.: 17 & 18).

EXAMPLE 3

25   ### Construction of a Recombinant Expression Construct, DNA Transfection
and Functional Expression of the MCR Gene Products

In order to produce recombinant mammalian cells expressing each of the

melanocortin receptors of Example 2, cDNA or the coding exons from genomic DNA

30   from each receptor were cloned into a mammalian expression construct, the resulting

recombinant expression construct transfected into human 293 cells, that do not express

an endogenous melanocortin receptor protein, and cell lines generated that expressed the melanocortin receptor proteins in cellular membranes at the cell surface.

The mouse αMSH receptor was cloned by excising the entire coding region of the MSH R (MC1-R) cDNA insert comprising a 2.1kb fragment and subcloning this fragment into the *Bam*HI/*Xho*I sites of pcDNA/neo expression vector (Invitrogen, San Diego, CA). The resulting plasmid was prepared in large-scale through one cycle of CsCl gradient ultracentrifugation, and 20 μg of the plasmid transfected into each 100mm dish of 293 cells using the calcium phosphate method *(see* Chen & Okayama, 1987, *Mol Cell. Biol.* 7: 2745-2752). After transfection, cells were cultured in DMEM media supplemented with 10% calf serum in a 3% CO_2 atmosphere at 37°C. Selection was performed with neomycin (G418; GIBCO, Long Island, N.Y.) at a concentration of 1000 μg/mL; selection was started 72 hr after transfection and continued for 3 weeks.

The αMSH receptor is known to couple to G-proteins and thereby activate adenylate cyclase, increasing intracellular levels of cAMP *(see* Buckley & Ramachandran, 1981, *Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA* 78: 7431-7435; Grahame-Smith *et al.,* 1967, *J Biol. Chem* 242: 5535-5541; Mertz & Catt, 1991, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 88: 8525-8529; Pawalek *et al.,* 1976, *Invest. Dermatol.* 66: 200-209). This property of cells expressing the αMSH receptor was used analyze expression of the αMSH receptor in cell colonies transfected with the expression vectors described herein as follows. Cells ($^-$1x10^6) were plated in 6-well dishes, washed once with DMEM containing 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 0.5mM isobutylmethylxanthine (IBMX, a phosphodiesterase inhibitor), then incubated for 45 minutes at 37°C with varying concentrations of the melanotropic peptides αMSH, βMSH, γMSH, the MSH peptide analogue Nle[4], D-Phe[7]-αMSH (NDP-MSH), and ACTH. Following hormone treatment, the cells were washed twice with phosphate buffered saline and intracellular CAMP extracted by lysing the cells with 1 mL of 60% ethanol. Intracellular cAMP concentrations were determined using an assay (Amersham) which measures the ability of cAMP to displace 8-^{3}H-cAMP from a high affinity cAMP binding protein *(see* Gilman, 1970, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 67: 305-312).

The results of these experiments are shown in Figure 8. The abscissa indicates the concentration of each hormone and the ordinate indicates the percentage of basal intracellular cAMP concentration achieved by each treatment. Points indicate the mean of duplicate incubations; the standard error did not exceed 15% for any data point. None of the peptides tested induced any change in intracellular cAMP in cells containing the vector alone. Cells expressing the murine αMSH receptor responded to melanotropic peptides with a 2-3 fold elevation of intracellular cAMP, similar to levels of cAMP induced by these peptides in the Cloudman cell line (see Pawalek, 1985, Yale J Biol. Med. 58: 571-578). The EC_{50} values determined for αMSH (2.0 x 10^{-9} M), ACTH (8.0 x10^{-9} M) and the superpotent MSH analogue NDP-MSH (2.8 x 10^{-11} M) correspond closely to reported values (see Tatro et al., 1990, ibid.). As expected, the βMSH peptide had an EC_{50} value comparable to αMSH, while γMSH had little or no activity (see Slominski et al., 1992, Life Sci. 50: 1103-1108), confirming the identity of this receptor as a melanocyte αMSH receptor.

A similar series of experiments were performed using mouse Y1 cells (subclone OS3; Schimmer et al., 1995, J. Cell. Physiol. 163: 164-171) expressing the human and bovine MC2-R (ACTH) receptor clones of Examples 2C and 2D. These results are shown in Figure 9, where the extent of cAMP responsive element-linked β-galactosidase activity (see below) is shown with increasing concentrations of ACTH.

The entire coding region of the MC3-R receptor cDNA insert, obtained as described in Example 2E above and in co-pending U.S. Serial No. 08/044,812, was contained in a 2.0kb restriction enzyme digestion fragment and was cloned into the BamHI/XhoI sites of pcDNA/neo I expression vector (Invitrogen, San Diego, CA). The resulting plasmid was prepared in large-scale through one cycle of CsCl gradient ultracentrifugation and 20 μg pcDNA/MC3-R receptor DNA were transfected into 293 cells by calcium phosphate co-precipitation using standard techniques, and plasmid-containing cells selected in G418-containing media.

Specific binding of melanocortin peptides to cells expressing the MC3-R receptor was demonstrated by competition experiments using ^{125}I-labeled Nle[4]-D-Phe[7]-α-MSH (NDP-MSH, as described in Tatro et al, 1990, ibid.). Suspended cells (2 x 10^5) were incubated at 37°C with 500,000 cpm of labeled peptide for 10 min in

binding buffer (Ham's F10 media plus 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.2, 0.25% bovine serum albumin, 500K IU/mL aprotinin, 100μg/mL bacitracin and 1mM 1,10-phenanthroline) in the presence or absence of the indicated concentrations of peptides. Maximum labeling was achieved within 10 min.

5   The results of these experiments are shown in Figure 10. Labeled NDP-MSH binding to cells expressing the MC3-R receptor, produced as described above, is inhibited by competition with unlabeled peptides known to be melanocortin receptor agonists, having a relative order of potency as follows:

NDP-MSH > γ-MSH > α-MSH > ACTH$_{4-10}$ > > > ORG2766.

10   Approximate K, values derived from this experiment are as shown in Table 1:

TABLE I

Agonist	K_i (approx.)
NDP-MSH	2×10^{-8}
γ-MSH	5×10^{-8}
α-MSH	1×10^{-7}
ACTH$_{4-10}$	8×10^{-5}

cAMP production assays as described above were also used to analyze expression of MC3-R in cells transfected with the expression vectors described herein as follows. Cells ($^-$5 x 10^6) were plated in 6-well dishes, washed once with DMEM containing 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 0.5mM IBMX (a phosphodiesterase inhibitor), then incubated for 1h at 37°C with varying concentrations of the melanotropic peptides αMSH, γ_3MSH, γMSH, the MSH peptide analogues Nle-D-Phe^7-αMSH (NDP-MSH), ACTH$_{4-10}$ and ACTH $_{1-39}$. Following hormone treatment, the cells were washed twice with phosphate buffered saline and intracellular cAMP extracted by lysing the cells with 1mL of 60% ethanol. Intracellular cAMP concentrations were determined using an assay which measures the ability of cAMP to displace (8-^{3}H)-cAMP from a high affinity cAMP binding protein (see Gilman, 1979, *ibid.*).

30   The results of these experiments are shown in Figures 11A through 11C. The abscissa indicates the concentration of each hormone and the ordinate indicates the

percentage of basal intracellular cAMP concentration achieved by each treatment. Points indicate the mean of duplicate incubations; the standard error did not exceed 15% for any data point. Figure 11A depicts the results of experiments using peptides found *in vivo;* Figure 11B depicts results found with γ-MSH variants; and Figure 11C

5   shows results of synthetic melanocortin analogues. None of the peptides tested induced any change in intracellular cAMP in cells containing the vector alone. Cells expressing rat MC3-R responded strongly to every melanotropic peptide containing the MSH code sequence His-Phe-Arg-Trp, with up to a 60-fold elevation of intracellular cAMP levels. EC_{50} values ranged from 1-50 nM. The most potent ligand and the one

10   having the lowest EC_{50} was found to be γMSH. The order of potency for the naturally occurring melanocortins was found to be:

$$γ_2\text{-MSH} = γMSH > αMSH = ACTH_{1\text{-}39} > γ_3\text{-MSH} > des\text{-acetyl-}αMSH >$$
$ACTH_{4\text{-}10}$. EC_{50} values for these compounds are shown in Table II:

TABLE II

Agonist	EC_{50}
NDP-MSH	1×10^{-9}
$γ_1$-MSH	3×10^{-9}
$γ_2$-MSH	3×10^{-9}
α-MSH	4×10^{-9}
$ACTH_{1\text{-}39}$	4×10^{-9}
$γ_3$-MSH	6×10^{-9}
*des*acetyl-α-MSH	8×10^{-9}
$ACTH_{4\text{-}10}$	1×10^{-7}

25   Additionally, a synthetic melanocortin peptide (ORG2766), known to have the greatest activity *in vivo* in stimulation of retention of learned behavior and in stimulation of neural regeneration, was unable to stimulate MC3-R-mediated cAMP production, and was also inactive as an antagonist. The results strongly indicate that this peptide does not bind to MC3-R protein.

30   The MC4-R receptor was cloned in a 1.9kb *Hind*III genomic DNA fragment after PCR amplification of a lambda phage clone into pcDNAI/Neo (Invitrogen). This

plasmid was stably introduced into human 293 cells by calcium phosphate co-precipitation using standard techniques, and plasmid-containing cells selected in G418 containing media. Specificity of receptor-hormone binding was assayed using adenylate cylcase activity as described above. The MC4-R receptor was found to couple to adenylate cyclase activity having the following pattern of agonist affinity:

NDP-MSH > des-acetyl-α-MSH > / = ACTH$_{1-39}$ > / = α-MSH > > γ_2-MSH = ACTH$_{4-10}$ whereas the synthetic ACTH$_{4-9}$ analogue ORG2766 showed no detectable binding to the MC4-R receptor. The results of adenylate cyclase activity assays are shown in Figure 12. EC$_{50}$ values for each of the tested MC4-R receptor agonists are as shown in Table III:

TABLE III

Agonist	EC$_{50}$
NDP-MSH	1.1×10^{-11}
*des*acetyl-α-MSH	4.9×10^{-10}
ACTH$_{1-39}$	6.8×10^{-10}
α-MSH	1.5×10^{-9}
γ_2-MSH	$> 10^{-7}$
ACTH$_{4-10}$	$> 10^{-7}$

A 1.6kb *Apa*I-*Hin*dIII fragment comprising the entire coding sequence of the mouse MC5-R melanocortin receptor disclosed in Example 2G above was cloned into the pcDNA/neo expression vector (Invitrogen) after PCR amplification of the lambda phage clone. This plasmid was stably introduced into human 293 cells by calcium phosphate co-precipitation using standard techniques, and plasmid-containing cells selected in G418 containing media. Specificity of receptor-hormone binding was assayed using adenylate cylcase activity as described above. The MC5-R receptor was found to couple to adenylate cyclase activity having the following pattern of agonist affinity:

α-MSH > βMSH > > γ-MSH

The results of adenylate cyclase activity assays (AC) and cAMP-dependent β-galactosidase (β-gal) assay are shown in Figure 13. EC_{50} values for each of the tested MC5-R receptor agonists are: α-MSH= 1.7×10^{-9}M, and βMSH = 5×10^{-9}M.

5

A.   Use of a reporter gene construct to detect melanocortin receptor binding

Recombinant cells prepared as described above were used to characterize receptor binding of melanocortin analogues as described in co-owned and co-pending U.S. Serial No. 08/706,281, filed September 4, 1996, incorporated by

10   reference herein.

Briefly, melanocortin receptor analogues were tested using a colorimetric assay developed by some of the instant inventors (Chen *et al.*, 1995, *Analyt. Biochem.* 226: 349-354, incorporated by reference). A series of concatamers of the synthetic oligonucleotide:

15   5'-GAATTCGACGTCACAGTATGACGGCCATGG-3'

(SEQ ID No.: 19)

was produced by self-annealing and ligation, producing a tandem tetramer. This fragment was cloned upstream of a fragment of the human vasoactive intestinal peptide (-93 to +152; *see* Fink *et al.*, 1988, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 85: 6662-

20   6666). This hybrid promoter was then cloned upstream of the β-galactosidase gene from *E. coli*. The resulting plasmid construct is shown in Figure 14 and termed pCRE/β-gal.

Transient transfection of the pCRE/β-gal plasmid into mammalian cells was described as follows. Cells at between 40-60% confluency (corresponding to about

25   1.5 million cells/ 6cm tissue culture dish) were incubated with Opti-MEM (GIBCO) And then contacted with a pCRE/β-gal-lipofectin complex which was prepared as follows. 3 μg plasmid DNA and 20μL lipofectin reagent (GIBCO) were each diluted into 0.5mL Opti-MEM media and then mixed together. This mixture was incubated at room temperature for 15-20 min, and then the mixture (1mL) added to

30   each 6cm plate. Transfected plates were incubated at 37°C for 5-24h, after which

time the plates were washed and incubated with DMEM media (GIBCO) and the cells split equally into a 96-well culture plate.

To assay melanocortin receptor analogue binding, human 293 cells expressing each of the melanocortin receptors MC1-R, MC3-R, MC4-R and MC5-R, and mouse Y1 cells expressing the MC2-R receptor, were transiently transfected with pCRE/β-gal as described above and assayed as follows. Two days after transfection, cells were stimulated with hormones specific for each receptor or hormone analogue by incubation for 6h at 37°C with a mixture comprising 10^{-12} to 10^{-6} M hormone or analogue, 0.1mg/mL bovine serum albumin and 0.1mM IBMX in DMEM. The effect of hormone or analogue binding was determined by β-galactosidase assay according to the method of Felgner *et al.* (1994, *J. Biol. Chem.* 269: 2550-2561). Briefly, media was aspirated from culture wells and 50μL lysis buffer (0.25M Tris-HCl, pH 8, 0.1% Triton X-100) added to each well. Cell lysis was enhanced by one round of freezing and thawing the cell/lysis buffer mixture. 10μL aliquots were sampled from each well for protein determination using a commercially-available assay (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA). The remaining 40μL from each well was diluted with 40μL phosphate buffered saline/ 0.5% BSA and 150μL substrate buffer (60mM sodium phosphate, 1mM $MgCl_2$, 10mM KCl, 5mM β-mercaptoethanol, 200μg/μL o-nitrophenyl-β-D-galactopyranoside) added. Plates were incubated at 37°C for 1h and then absorbance at 405nm determines using a 96-well plate reader (Molecular Devices, Sunnyvale, CA). A series of two-fold dilutions ranging from 20ng of purified β-galactosidase protein (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) were assayed in parallel in each experiment to enable conversion of OD_{405} to known quantities of β-galactosidase protein.

The results of these experiments are shown in Figures 15A and 15B. These Figures show the results of a β-galactosidase assay described above using cells expressing each of the MC1-R, MC3-R, MC4-R or MC5-R receptors and contacted with αMSH or a variety of αMSH analogues. These results showed that a particular MSH analogue (termed SHU9119; *see* co-owned and co-pending USSN 08/706,281, filed September 4, 1996, incorporated by reference herein) had relatively weak agonist activity for both human MC3-R and MC4-R receptors.

These results demonstrated the development of a colorimetric assay for cAMP accumulation as the result of melanocortin receptor binding by agonists or antagonists.

5

EXAMPLE 4

Preparation of Recombinant Targeting Vectors for Producing Mice Bearing a Homozygous Disruption of the MC5-R Gene Locus

The cloned mouse MC5-R gene disclosed in Example 2G above was used to
10   prepare recombinant genetic constructs for producing mice bearing homozygous disruption of the MC5-R gene locus as follows.

The purified MC5-R lambda genomic clone disclosed above contains the entire coding sequence, plus 5kb of 5' noncoding sequence, as well as 7.8 kb of 3' noncoding sequence. A 9 kb *Sac*I fragment was subcloned from the lambda
15   genomic clone, shown schematically in Figure 16, for subsequent manipulations. To make the "knock-out" construct, a 650 bp *Apa* I/*Msc*I fragment that extends from -200 bp upstream (5') of the initiation codon to the middle of the TM3 domain of the receptor (at position 402 in SEQ ID No.:17) was replaced with the PGK-Neo cassette (as described in Rudnicki *et al.*, 1992, *Cell* 71: 383-390). The PGK-TK
20   cassette (Rudnicki *et al.*, 1992, *ibid.*) was placed 5' to the MC5-R coding sequence and with a transcriptional orientation opposite to the MC5-R gene sequences. The PGK-TK cassette was included in the construct to enrich homologous recombinants by negative selection against the thymidine kinase from herpes simplex virus (*see* Capecchi, 1989, *Science* 244: 1288-1292). The resulting vector, termed pMC5-
25   RKO thus contains 4.5 kb of MC5-R specific sequences derived from the 5' noncoding sequence of the cloned gene, and 1.2 kb comprising about 600 bp of MC5-R coding sequence and 600 bp of 3' untranslated sequences that are potential sites for gene disruption homologous recombination. The targeting construct can be linearized with *Xho*I.

30

EXAMPLE 5

Use of Recombinant Targeting Vectors for Producing
Mice Bearing a Homozygous Disruption of the MC5-R Gene Locus

5   1.   Transfection of ES cells and blastocyst injection

Twenty-five μg of XhoI-linearized pMC5-RKO DNA was electroporated into

10^7 AK47 ES cells (which can be obtained, for example, from the American Type

Culture Collection, Rockville, MD). The cells were selected with G418 (400-1000

μg/mL) and gancyclovir at 24 hour after transfection. Individual colonies were

10   identified one week after selection and expanded in 96 well plates. DNA from

individual clones was screened by PCR analysis for homologous recombinants,

using one primer specific for sequences outside of pMC5-RKO:

5'-CTAGGATAGGGGAACTGTAGT-3'   SEQ ID No.: 20

and one primer specific for sequences comprising the PGK-Neo cassette:

15   5'-GAGGATTGGGAAGACAATAGCA-3'   SEQ ID No. 21

under PCR conditions essentially equivalent to those disclosed in Example 1.

Positive clones were confirmed by Southern analysis using MC5-R flanking

sequences from both the 5' and 3' extents of the MC5-R gene, each comprising a

naturally-occurring EcoRI site as shown in Figure 16 as a probe. About 20% of

20   clones obtained were found to be homologous recombinants using these methods.

Selected clones were injected into blastocysts from C57/BL/6 mice, prepared using

standard techniques (see Hogan et al., 1986, Manipulating the Mouse Embryo: A

Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press: New York), and several

chimeric mice were produced. Three independent chimeric lines were found to be

25   transmitted through germline. Chimeric male mice were then breed with C57BL/6

or 129Sv mice: one clone was bred with 129Sv to produce inbred offspring, and the

other two were backcrossed 7 - 9 generations with C57BL/6J mice to make congenic

strains. Germline transmission of the "knockout" allele comprising pMC5-RKO

sequences was identified using PCR analysis as described for ES cell analysis and

30   in addition using a wild-type specific primer:

5' - ATGAACTCCTCCTCCACCCTG-3'   SEQ ID No.: 22

and confirmed by Southern analysis. Heterozygotic males and females were breed to generate homozygous mutant mice. Continuous backcrossing with C57/BL/6 was carried out to obtain C57/BL/6-like congenic lines.

5   The deficiency of MC5-R was confirmed by Southern hybridization (Figures 17A and 17B), northern analysis (Figure 17C) and ^{125}I-Nle^4, D-Phe^7-α-MSH (NDP-α-MSH) binding on crude plasma membranes from skeletal muscle (Figures 17D and 17E). MC5-R null mice were found to reproduce and thrive normally. There was no obvious anatomic or behavioral abnormalities in these mice, indicating that MC5-R expression is not essential for normal development and daily life under
10   laboratory conditions.

2.   **Water retention assay and temperature measurement**

Homozygous MC5-R "knockout" mice were analyzed to determine the physiological effects of homozygous MC5-R gene disruption using a variety of
15   behavioral and physiological tests; in the absence of gross developmental or physical deformities, it was recognized that these effects could be subtle. No readily visible phenotype was apparent in mice bred to contain a homozygous deletion of the MC5-R, in either the C57Bl/6J or 129Sv strain backgrounds. Appearance, behavior, growth, muscle mass, adipose mass, reproduction, and basal and stress-induced
20   corticosterone, glucose, and insulin levels in these animals were indistinguishable from heterozygous or wild-type litter mates.

In order to identify more subtle physiological phenotypes in these "knockout" mice, the animals were examined for their response to exogenous melanocortin peptides in a number of adrenocortical-independent biological assays. Melanocortin
25   peptide activities examined included anti-inflammatory activity of α-MSH in carageenan-induced ear-swelling (Macaluso *et al.*, 1994, *J. Neurosci.* 14: 2377-2382), enhanced recovery from sciatic nerve crush by α-MSH (Bijlsma, 1983, *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 92: 231-236; Strand *et al.*, 1993, *Rev. Neurosci.* 4: 321-363), and α-MSH induced inhibition of stress-induced analgesia (Belcher *et al.*, 1982, *Brain Res.*
30   247: 373-377; Smock and Fields, 1981, *Brain Res.* 212: 202-206). The anti-inflammatory action of α-MSH is preserved in these mice, indicating MC5-R is not

essential for this function. The mutant mice also have an apparently intact hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis, suggesting MC5-R in the adrenal cortex is not essential for the stress response. Mutant mice also were also indistinguishable from wild-type mice in swim-induced anagelsia, excluding the involvement of MC5-R in

5   the proposed inhibition of morphine-induced analgesia by ACTH (as suggested by Smock and Fields, 1981, *ibid.*). In summary, none of these assays produced identifiable differences between the wild type and knockout animals.

During a stress-induced analgesia assay in which the mice were made to swim for three minutes to activate the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis (Mogil,

10   1996, *Physiol. Behav.* 59: 123-132), it was observed that the knockout animals had absorbed more water, needed more time for their fur to dry than their wild-type counterparts, and remained wet for a longer period of time than litter mate controls (shown in Figures 18A and 18B). This effect was then quantitated, and it was found that wild-type mice dried their hair in about 25 minutes on average after a 3 minutes

15   swim at 32°C; in contrast, it took MC5-RKO mice more than 40 minutes to dry (shown in Figure 18B), resulting in severe thermoregulatory defects in the animal as well (Figures 18C and 18D).

To investigate this behavior, homozygous MC5-R "knockout" mice were subjected to a water retention/ body temperature assay as follows. Core temperature

20   was measured using an inserted rectal thermoprobe 2.5 cm inside each mouse. Five to 10 minutes prior to swim, the core temperature of each mouse was read 3 times to obtain the baseline. Mice were then weighed and immediately let swim in 32°C water for 3 minutes. Mice were then removed from the water and placed on absorbent paper towels for about 5 seconds to eliminate excessive water. Mice were

25   then weighed, their core body temperature recorded, and put into an empty Plexiglas cage. Weight and temperature was measured every five minutes for half an hour thereafter. The weight of absorbed water was calculated by subtracting pre-swim weight from the post-swimming weight.

These results indicated that the longer drying times found in the "knockout"

30   mutant mice was due to impaired water repulsion by mouse skin and hair. MC5-RKO mice absorbed almost twice as much water as the wild type controls (results

shown in Figure 18B). The water absorbed by MC5-RKO mice totaled about 5%
of their body mass, while that absorbed by wild-type controls amounted to only
2.5%. (The rate of evaporation, however, was comparable.) This defect in water
repulsion appeared to be related to surface lipids, as shown by a reconstitution

5   experiment using wildtype mice. Removal of skin and hair lipids from normal mice
by washing the mice with a 5% SDS solution (termed "shampooed" mice) increased
water absorption to 9% of body weight in wild type mice (see Figure 18B), similar
to the levels found in MC5-R knockout mutant mice.

These initial results prompted investigations on thermoregulation in the mice.

10   Thermoregulation is a complex process involving many physiological responses
including basal metabolic rate, vasodilation and constriction, shivering, non-
shivering thermogenesis mediated by brown fat stores, sweating, panting, and lastly,
insulation via the skin and coat. The addition to their obvious role in repelling
water, dermal lipids (such as are produced by the sebaceous and Harderian glands)

15   are critical for supporting the optimal insulating capabilities of the mammalian coat.
For example, removal of the Harderian gland, a large bi-lobed gland found in the
retroorbital region in most vertebrates, results in approximately 40-50% reduction
in lipids extractable from the coat (Thiessen and Kittrell, 1980, *Physiol. Behav.* 24:
417-424). This, in turn, results in a dramatic thermoregulatory defect in the gerbil

20   (Thiessen and Kittrell, 1980, *ibid.*), reducing core body temperature 4.6° in
response to a cold water bath in the Harderianectomized animal compared to 1.6°
in the sham operated control. Likewise sebaceous lipids play an important
thermoregulatory role, as has been demonstrated in the muskrats (Harlow, 1984,
Physiol. Zool. 57: 349-356).

25   The MC5-RKO and wild type animals had the same core body temperature
at an ambient temperature at 26°C. However, the colonic temperature decreased
2°C during a 3 minute swim at 32°C in mutant mice, compared to 0.7° C in the
wild-type controls. In addition, colonic temperature dropped another 0.5°C before
the mutant mice recovered. No further decline in body core temperature was

30   observed in wild-type mice, whereas the colonic temperature in MC5-RKO mice
was still 1.5°C below normal. This more severe and longer lasting hypothermia

could be mimicked in wild-type mice by washing the mice with detergent as above (*see* Figure 18C).

Lipids in the mammalian coat were also found to be important for optimal regulation in cold air as well as cold water. Mutant and wild-type mice were challenged with cold air (using a cold room held at 5-6°C), and mutant and wild-type exhibited remarkable differences in their colonic temperature.. Wild-type mice increased core temperature slightly at the beginning of the cold room incubation, and maintained above-normal body temperature for at least 3 hours. In contrast, MC5-RKO bearing knockout mice underwent a mild hypothermia (shown in Figure 18D). As before, air hypothermia could be produced in wild-type mice by removing surface lipids with a 5% SDS solution (*see* Figure 18D). These results suggested that MC5-RKO knockout mice differing from their litter mates solely by virtue of homologous genetic disruption of the MC5-R gene locus resulted in an impairment in water repulsion as well as a defect in the insulating properties of the coat in the mutant mice due to a deficiency in the production secretion or distribution of hair and/or skin lipids.

3.   Hair lipids extraction and analysis

The results shown in Section 2 above prompted an analysis of hair lipids from wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice as follows.

Hair lipids was extracted as described by Ebling (1975, *J. Endocrinol.* 66: 407-412) with modifications. Seventy to 100 mg of hair from each mouse was extracted with 20mL of acetone for 15 minutes. The extractants were filtered and the hair was then washed with an additional 20mL acetone. The pooled filtrant was let evaporate to about 5mL in a chemical hood. The acetone was then transferred to a tared aluminum foil boat and evaporated to dryness. The aluminum foil was then reweighed. The amount of hair lipids obtained using this procedure was calculated by subtracting the predetermined weight of the foil from the weight obtained after evaporation of the lipid-extracting acetone. Hair lipids (100-150 μg) were recovered from the aluminum foil, loaded on a Silica gel 60 plate (Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) and resolved by hexane/benzene (55:45 v/v). The positions of the

lipids on the plate were developed by spraying the plate with sulfuric acid/ethanol (1:1) mixture, then charred in an 150°C oven until appropriate color development occurred (as described by Stewart & Downing, 1991, *Adv. Lipid Res.* 24: 263-301).

A 15-20% reduction of acetone-extractable material from hair lipids was found in both male and female MC5-RKO mice (shown in Figure 18E). It was recognized that it is not unexpected to observe reduced sebum production by females because sebaceous gland activity is up regulated by androgens (found in greater concentrations in males; Thody *et al.*, 1976, *J. Endocrinol.* 71: 279-288). In order to determine whether the observed results represented a general or specific deficiency, surface lipids were analyzed by thin layer chromatography (TLC). A dramatic reduction of sterol esters in both male and female mutants was observed (Figure 18F).

Sterol esters constitute more than 26% of the total acetone extractable lipids in wild-type mice, but only about 13% in the mutants (Figure 18F). There was no other significant difference in other sebum components. As sterol esters are the most hydrophobic species of sebaceous lipids, their deficiency is consistent with impaired water repulsion seen in MC5-RKO mice.

4.   MC5-R receptor expression in exocrine glands

A.   The MC5-R receptor is expressed at high levels in multiple exocrine glands

The defect observed in MC5-RKO mutant mice disclosed above suggested a direct role for MC5-R receptor in sebaceous gland production. Expression of MC5-R receptor in sebaceous or other exocrine glands as not been previously reported. In order to assay for MC5-R expression in exocrine, specifically sebaceous, glands, *in situ* hybridization was performed on skin sections from wild-type mice, using a radiolabeled 650bp *ApaI/MscI* MC5-R fragment as a probe (*see* Figure 16). Results of these assays are shown in Figure 19A, Panels A through D. Highly-abundant expression of MC5-R mRNA was found in hair follicle-associated sebaceous glands in wild-type skin (Figure 19A, Panel A and Panel C), but not in MC5-RKO mutant mice (Figure 19A, Panel B). Specificity of the observed

hybridization was confirmed by performing *in situ* hybridization on wild-type skin sections using a sense-oriented MC5-R probe (Figure 19A, Panel D).

In view of the results disclosed above, and in view of previously disclosed findings that suggested an effect of αMSH on sebum production, the finding of MC5-R mRNA in sebaceous gland inspired a comprehensive search for MC5-R expression in other exocrine tissues including preputial gland (a specialized sebaceous gland), lacrimal gland and Harderian gland, as well as in a variety of previously-characterized tissues. In agreement with previous studies, MC5-R mRNA was detected at moderate levels in muscle and skin, and was present at very low levels in spinal cord, brain stem, and adipose tissues (Figure 19B). Strikingly, however, MC5-R mRNA was found to be extremely abundant in the Harderian gland, lacrimal gland and preputial gland (Figure 19C). The level of MC5-R in preputial gland is approximately 30 times higher than that in the skin (comparison shown in Figure 19D).

B. Functional MC5 receptor protein is expressed in multiple exocrine glands and in spinal cord - Characterization of functional membrane receptor

The results disclosed above demonstrated MC5-R mRNA expression in exocrine glands of wild-type mice and not of MC5-RKO knockout mutant mice. To further and complement analysis of the differences between wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant knockout mice, various exocrine glands and tissues were surveyed for functional MC5-R gene expression by performing agonist binding studies on membrane preparations. In these experiments, crude membranes were made from wild-type and "knockout" mouse exocrine glands and tissues as follows. Tissues were minced and homogenized with a Polytron. The homogenized tissue mixture was then subjected to 500 x g by centrifugation, and the resulting supernatant fluid of the tissue homogenate was then centrifuged at 100,000 x g for 40 minutes at 4°C. The pellet was rinsed twice with PBS and protein content determined using the method of Bradford (1976, *Analyt. Biochem.* 72: 248-254). Specific ^{125}I-NDP-α-MSH binding by membrane preparations containing 100 µg of protein was determined as described in co-owned U.S. Patent 5,532,247, issued July 2, 1996,

incorporated by reference herein. To monitor ligand-induced cAMP production, excised tissues of interest were minced and incubated in DMEM containing 0.1 mg/mL BSA in the presence or absence of ligand for 20 minutes before being frozen in liquid nitrogen. cAMP was extracted with 60% ethanol and measured by RIA as

5   described (Chen et al., 1995, ibid.). Protein in ethanol extracted pellets was determined by the method of Bradford as above. Protein assay studies were complemented by northern analysis of tissue-extracted mRNA in tissues showing differential MC5-R gene expression in wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice.

     The results of these radioligand binding studies are shown in Figures 20A

10   and 20B. As was previously observed in skeletal muscle membrane, there was strong and specific ^{125}I-DNP-α-MSH binding in crude plasma membranes prepared from Harderian gland, preputial gland, and lacrimal gland of wild-type mice (Figure 20A). When these binding experiments were conducted in membranes obtained from heterozygous MC5-RKO mice, intermediate levels of specific binding was

15   found. Specific binding was absent in membranes from MC5-RKO mice, indicating the absence of significant levels of expression of MC1-R, MC3-R and MC4-R in these tissues (Figure 20A).

     Specific ^{125}I-NDP-α-MSH binding was also seen in the spinal cord. The decreased binding in the heterozygotes and mutant mice indicates that MC5-R is the

20   major melanocortin receptor in spinal cord (Figure 20B). The residual binding may be due to MC4-R in this tissue.

     To further examine the functionality of the MC-5R receptor in these tissues, exocrine glands were exercised and cultured in vitro. Application of physiological levels of α-MSH and/or NDP-α-MSH to such cultures markedly stimulated cAMP

25   synthesis in the cultures, further demonstrating the presence of functional receptor protein (as illustrated by preputial gland culture results, shown in Figures 20C and 20D). There was less stimulation of cAMP synthesis by the synthetic ligand NDP-α-MSH, suggesting that NDP-α-MSH may be a partial agonist at the MC5-R. This is consistent with data obtained from MC5-R expressed in HEK293 cells (Chen,

30   unpublished data). The inhibition of α-MSH induced cAMP production by NDP-α-MSH suggests the compound may act as a mixed agonist/antagonist.

Thus, creation of the MC5-R knockout mouse disclosed herein permitted examination of the role of the MC5-R receptor in the *in vivo* expression of MSH binding sites, as assessed by the binding of radiolabeled ^{125}I-NDP-α-MSH . Particularly striking was the high level of MC5-R binding sites expressed in spinal

5   cord and skeletal muscle (Figure 17D). These results suggest a role for the MC5-R receptor in mediating the effects of melanocortin peptides on nerve regeneration (Bijlsma, 1983, *ibid*), muscle satellite cell proliferation (Cossu, 1989, *Develop. Biol.* 131: 331-336; De Angelis *et al.*, 1992, *Develop. Biol.* 151: 446-458), and muscle deuse deconditioning. These results also provide a pharmacological rationale for

10   observed but unexplained regulation of the production of sebaceous and preputial lipids by exogenous α-MSH (Thody *et al.*, 1976, *ibid.*).

5.   MC5 Receptor Regulates Protein Secretion by the Lacrimal Gland

A.   Measurement of lacrimal gland protein discharge

15   The lacrimal gland is the major source for the protein-rich aqueous layer of tear film. This gland is known to secrete both electrolytes and proteins, largely under parasympathetic control (Dartt, 1994, *Adv. Exp. Med. Biol.* 350: 1-9). To assess the consequences of MC5-R ablation on lacrimal gland secretion, we measured melanocortin-stimulated protein secretion in the lacrimal gland fragments

20   in culture.

Protein discharge from lacrimal glands was determined as described by Jahn (1982, *ibid.*). Mouse lacrimal glands were dissected and each cut into four pieces. The explants were incubated in 10 mL of Kreb-Ringer bicarbonate buffer (KRB) in the presence of 25 μCi ^3H-leucine for 20 minutes in a 37°C chamber gassed with 5%

25   CO_2 and 95% O_2. The tissues were rinsed three times with KRB and further incubated in KRB for 60 minutes to allow incorporation of radioactivity into protein. After another rinsing with KRB, 8 pieces of labeled tissue (corresponding to 2 glands) were put into one well of a 12-well plate, each well containing 2 mL of KRB. Buffer (0.5 mL) was taken from each well before returning the plate into the

30   chamber. Fifteen minutes later, another 0.5 mL aliquot of buffer was removed from each well. Hormones to be tested were added to a final concentration of 50 nM, and

the plate further incubated in the chamber for 30 minutes, after which time 0.5 mL

of buffer was again removed from each well. Radioactivity produced in each sample

was measured by liquid scintigraphy. The rate of protein discharge for each sample

during the last 30 minutes of the assay was calculated as the net increase of

5   radioactivity in the period divided by that in the previous 15 minutes. The relative

secretion rate was computed by setting the rate of the wild-type control to be 1.

These results are shown in Figures 21A and 21B. After lacrimal gland acini

were pulsed with ^{3}H-leucine, and then allowed further incubation to incorporate the

radioactivity into newly synthesized proteins, the rate of protein secretion was

10   determined by monitoring the rate of radioactivity discharge from the cells.

Incubation of these tissue cultures with physiological levels of α-MSH and ACTH

increased protein secretion about 80% in cultures prepared from glands of wild-type

mice, but this increase was not observed in lacrimal gland cultures prepared from

MC5-RKO mice (Figure 21A).   The rate of melanocortin stimulated protein

15   discharge in gland cultures prepared from wild-type mice increased in a dose

dependent fashion, with an EC_{50} of 4 nM for ACTH (Figure 21B).

It has been previously demonstrated that both ACTH and α-MSH increase

total protein discharge 3-4 fold from lacrimal glands in culture (Jahn, 1982, *ibid.;*

Leiba *et al.*, 1990, *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 181: 71-82), and high affinity melanocortin

20   binding sites have been demonstrated in lacrimal glands (Leiba *et al.*, 1990, *ibid.*;

Tatro and Reichlin, 1987, *ibid*).   Furthermore, α-MSH stimulated peroxidase

secretion in the lacrimal gland about as well as epinephrine and carbamylcholine,

and was not blocked by atropine, propranolol, or phentolamine, suggesting that α-

MSH is an independent secretagogue (Leiba *et al.*, 1990, *ibid.*).   The results

25   disclosed herein establish that the receptor mediating these effects is the MC5-R, and

the ACTH can stimulate total protein secretion from the lacrimal gland with an EC_{50}

of 4nM (shown in Figure 21B).

6.   **MC5-R receptor is required for porphyrin production in the Harderian**
30   **gland**

A.   **Measurement of Harderian Porphyrins**

Another gland assayed in wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice was the Harderian gland. The Harderian gland is a bilobular retro-orbital structure that secrets primarily two products, lipid and prophyrins, into the eyes. These products are spread onto the body surface by grooming. Most vertebrates, with the exception

5   of man, have Harderian glands, although their functional role is not well understood. In rodents, the lipids components are distributed along the coat of the animal by grooming behaviors, and play an important thermoregulatory role, suggesting that MC5-R receptors are expressed in these glands in view of the results disclosed in Sections 2 and 3 above. The porphyrins absorb UV light, and coat the

10   cornea, where they could play some role in phototransduction. The porphyrins are co-secreted in abundance with lipids and thus an excellent marker of Harderian function.

Porphyrins in the Harderian gland were extracted as described (Margolis, 1971, *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* <u>145</u>: 2377-2382). Briefly, the glands were removed

15   from individual mice and homogenized by a motorized micro-pestle in 0.5 mL of an acetic acid/diethylether mixture (1:4). The homogenate was then centrifuged at 3000 x *g* for 5 min and the resulting supernatant fluid removed and transferred to another assay tube. The centrifugation pellet was extracted twice more under identical conditions, with the resulting supernatant pooled for further analysis.

20   Pooled extractants were concentrated in a speed-vac (Sorval) to dryness. The samples were then dissolved in 50 μL chloroform and 0.95mL of a 0.25N HCl solution added to each assay tube. Porphyrin production from these samples were characterized by scanning spectrophotometry and spectrofluorimetry using an excitation wavelength of 402 nm.

25   The results of these assays are shown in Figures 22A and 22B. Under UV light illumination, bright fluorescence was seen in organic extractants from Harderian glands of wild-type and heterozygous males; in contrast, no fluorescence was visible in those from mutant males (Figure 22A). The extracted substances displayed two-peak absorbance at 402 and 560 nm, which confirmed the presence

30   of porphyrins in wild-type Harderian glands. There was almost no visible absorbance at the two peaks in extracts using Harderian glands from MC5-RKO

mutant mice, suggesting a nearly complete porphyrin deficiency in these animals (Figure 22B). In addition, porphyrins from Harderian glands of wild-type and MC5-RKO mice were analyzed by scanning spectrofluorimetry, wherein one quarter of the total extract from individual mice was scanned in 0.2 mL of a 0.25 N HCl solution, using an excitation wavelength of 402 nm. For prophyrins isolated from Harderian glands of wild-type mice, a peak emission wavelength was found at 602 nm, characteristic for porphyrins. However, when excited with light at 402 nm, very little fluorescence at 602 nm was emitted from the mutant samples, compared with similar fluorescence emission obtained from porphyrins produced by Harderian glands from either wild-type or heterozygotic mice.

These results indicate that knockout mutant MC5-RKO mice are deficient in lacrimal, preputial and Harderian gland secretion, and that receptor occupancy by MC5-R receptors in these tissues *in vivo* regulates exocrine gland function in mammals independently of ACTH glucocorticosteroid stimulatory pathways or mechanisms. Ablation of MC5-R gene expression by homologous recombination resulted in the loss of detectable ^{125}I-NDP-α-MSH binding to Harderian gland, lacrimal gland and preputial gland, as well as spinal cord and skeletal muscle. The binding sites demonstrated here were also shown to be effectively coupled to adenylate cyclase (Figures 20A and 20B) in Harderian, lacrimal, and preputial glands: in some cases, as much as a twenty-fold increase in intracellular cAMP could be seen following stimulation with 50 nM α-MSH. Thus, other biological activities of melanocortin peptides acting at these tissues are likely to be mediated by MC5-R.

EXAMPLE 6

Use of Exocrine Gland Tissue from Wild-type and MC5-R "Knockout" Mice in Assays for Detecting and Characterizing MC5-R Receptor Agonists and Antagonists

The results obtained above provide reagents and methods for detecting and characterizing MC5-R receptor agonists and antagonists for use in modulating exocrine gland function.

In one example of the assays provided by this invention, primary cell cultures of exocrine gland tissue obtained from wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice as described in Example 5 above are prepared and the MC5-R receptor binding activity of test compounds for agonist and antagonist activity are assayed by cAMP assay and competition binding assays as described in Example 3. EC_{50} values derived in these assays are used in comparison with known MC5-R agonist and antagonists to characterize the agonist/antagonist behavior of a particular test compound.

Specificity of MC5-R receptor agonists or antagonists as detected and characterized herein is also determined using a panel of recombinant cells or cells naturally expressing a melanocortin receptor gene or combinations thereof, provided that the panel comprises cells expressing each of the melanocortin receptor genes. cAMP assays, radiolabeled ligand binding assays, competitive assays and reporter-gene assays as described in Example 3 are used to determine the degree of specific binding to melanocortin receptors for such agonist and antagonist compounds.

These methods provide important means and assays for developing MC5-R specific agonists and antagonists to regulate exocrine gland function. Exocrine gland function is known to be coordinately controlled by the parasympathetic and sympathetic nervous system, with the former exerting a stimulatory effect in most cases. Hormonal regulation of exocrine gland function is also well characterized, such as the stimulation of sebaceous gland function by androgens involved in acne (Ebling *et al.*, 1975, *ibid.*; Thody *et al.*, 1976, *ibid.*). The disclosure herein that synthesis of lipids, proteins, and porphyrins in a variety of exocrine glands is regulated by the MC5-R suggests the existence of a coordinated system for hormonal control of exocrine gland function by melanocortin peptides.

Previous data on sebaceous gland function showed that testosterone and α-MSH are synergistic in their control of sebum production (Ebling *et al.*, 1975, *ibid.*; Thody *et al.*, 1976, *ibid.*). Hypophysectomy in mice (Ebling *et al.*, 1969, *J. Endocrinol.* 45: 257-263), and hypopituitarism in man (Goolamali *et al.*, 1974, *J. Invest. Dermatol.* 63: 253-255) decreases sebum production. The MC5-R is approximately five fold more sensitive to α-MSH than ACTH, and furthermore,

ablation of the neurointermediate lobe, the source of circulating α-MSH, decreases sebum production as much as a total hypophysectomy, without decreasing testosterone levels (Thody and Shuster, 1973, *ibid.*). These data suggest that pituitary α-MSH regulates sebaceous gland function (Thody and Shuster, 1973, *ibid.*).

On the other hand, MC5-R remains very sensitive to ACTH, with EC_{50} values reported in the low nM range (Fathi *et al.*, 1995, *Neurochem. Res.* 20: 107-113; Gantz *et al.*, 1994, *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* 200: 1214-1220; Griffon *et al.*, 1994, *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* 200: 1007-1014; Labbe *et al.*, 1994, *ibid.*), comparable to the 1nM EC_{50} reported for activation of adenylate cyclase by the adrenocortical ACTH receptor, MC2-R (Buckley and Ramachandran, 1981, *ibid.*). While the affinity of the MC5-R for ACTH is somewhat lower than the MC2-R, activation of steroidogenic gene expression by the ACTH-R can be detected at ACTH levels as low as 10^{-11}M, several logs below half-maximal receptor occupancy (Simpson, 1988). Furthermore, since circulating α-MSH is generally not detectable in man, a pituitary-derived melanocortin peptide involved in the regulation of sebaceous glands would, by necessity, have to be ACTH. Consequently, the existence of a hypothalamic-pituitary-exocrine axis would suggest the possibility of exocrine gland regulation by the stress axis.

Stress-mediated regulation of exocrine gland function *via* elevated levels of ACTH acting by binding to the MC5-R is also interesting with regard to pheromonally-mediated mammalian behaviors. This could provide a physiological pathway for the effects of stress on conspecific mammalian behavior *via* the regulation of olfactory cues, *i.e.*, a mechanism for animals to "smell" stress. Preputial, Harderian, and sebaceous glands are all known to produce pheromones, and all express high levels of functional MC5-R (Figures 20A and 20B). α-MSH has been demonstrated to stimulate the release of a preputial odorant into the urine which stimulates aggressive attacks (Nowell *et al.*, 1980, *ibid*). The preputial gland is also known to produce pheromones that function as sexual attractants (Bronson and Caroom, 1971, *ibid.*; Chipman and Alberecht, 1974, *ibid.*; Orsulak and

Gawienowski, 1972, *ibid.*), as does the Harderian gland (Thiessen and Harriman, 1986, *J. Comp. Physiol.* 100: 85-87).

The development of MC5-R receptor agonists and antagonists using the methods of the instant invention thus provides means and assays for developing

5   compounds useful for the alleviation of a variety of exocrine gland-related diseases, dysfunctions and abnormal conditions, such methods being unavailable prior to the instant disclosures.

It should be understood that the foregoing disclosure emphasizes certain specific embodiments of the invention and that all modifications or alternatives

10   equivalent thereto are within the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

    (i) APPLICANT:
        (A) NAME: State of Oregon
        (B) STREET: Oregon Health Sciences Univ., 3181 S.W. Sam
                Jackson Park Road
        (C) CITY: Portland
        (D) STATE: Oregon
        (E) COUNTRY: USA
        (F) POSTAL CODE (ZIP): 97201-3098
        (G) TELEPHONE: 503-494-8200
        (H) TELEFAX: (503)-494-4729

    (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Mammalian Melanocortin Receptor and Uses

    (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 22

    (iv) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
        (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
        (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
        (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
        (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25 (EPO)

    (v) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
        APPLICATION NUMBER:

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
        (A) LENGTH: 35 base pairs
        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
        (B) LOCATION: 1..35
        (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate
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            /note= "The residue at positions 24 and 24 are
            inosine"

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       (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
       (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
       (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

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       (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
       (B) LOCATION: 1..32
       (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate
           oligonucleotide primer (antisense)"
           /note= "The residue at position 18 is inosine"

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
       (A) LENGTH: 1260 base pairs
       (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
       (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
       (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

    (ix) FEATURE:
       (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR
       (B) LOCATION: 1..14

    (ix) FEATURE:
       (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
       (B) LOCATION: 15..959

    (ix) FEATURE:
       (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR
       (B) LOCATION: 960..1260

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               1   5   10

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Ser Leu Asn Ser Asn Ala Thr Ser His Leu Gly Leu Ala Thr Asn Gln
     15   20   25

TCA GAG CCT TGG TGC CTG TAT GTG TCC ATC CCA GAT GGC CTC TTC CTC   146
Ser Glu Pro Trp Cys Leu Tyr Val Ser Ile Pro Asp Gly Leu Phe Leu
     30   35   40

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AGC CTA GGG CTG GTG AGT CTG GTG GAG AAT GTG CTG GTT GTG ATA GCC     194
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 45                  50                  55                  60

ATC ACC AAA AAC CGC AAC CTG CAC TCG CCC ATG TAT TAC TTC ATC TGC     242
Ile Thr Lys Asn Arg Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Tyr Phe Ile Cys
                 65                  70                  75

TGC CTG GCC CTG TCT GAC CTG ATG GTA AGT GTC AGC ATC GTG CTG GAG     290
Cys Leu Ala Leu Ser Asp Leu Met Val Ser Val Ser Ile Val Leu Glu
             80                  85                  90

ACT ACT ATC ATC CTG CTG CTG GAG GTG GGC ATC CTG GTG GCC AGA GTG     338
Thr Thr Ile Ile Leu Leu Leu Glu Val Gly Ile Leu Val Ala Arg Val
             95                 100                 105

GCT TTG GTG CAG CAG CTG GAC AAC CTC ATT GAC GTG CTC ATC TGT GGC     386
Ala Leu Val Gln Gln Leu Asp Asn Leu Ile Asp Val Leu Ile Cys Gly
        110                 115                 120

TCC ATG GTG TCC AGT CTC TGC TTC CTG GGC ATC ATT GCT ATA GAC CGC     434
Ser Met Val Ser Ser Leu Cys Phe Leu Gly Ile Ile Ala Ile Asp Arg
125                 130                 135                 140

TAC ATC TCC ATC TTC TAT GCG CTG CGT TAT CAC AGC ATC GTG ACG CTG     482
Tyr Ile Ser Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Leu
                145                 150                 155

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Pro Arg Ala Arg Arg Ala Val Val Gly Ile Trp Met Val Ser Ile Val
                160                 165                 170

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            175                 180                 185

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Cys Leu Val Thr Phe Phe Leu Ala Met Leu Ala Leu Met Ala Ile Leu
        190                 195                 200

TAT GCC CAC ATG TTC ACG AGA GCG TGC CAG CAC GTC CAG GGC ATT GCC     674
Tyr Ala His Met Phe Thr Arg Ala Cys Gln His Val Gln Gly Ile Ala
205                 210                 215                 220

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Gln Leu His Lys Arg Arg Arg Ser Ile Arg Gln Gly Phe Cys Leu Lys
                225                 230                 235

GGT GCT GCC ACC CTT ACT ATC CTT CTG GGG ATT TTC TTC CTG TGC TGG     770
Gly Ala Ala Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp
                240                 245                 250

GGC CCC TTC TTC CTG CAT CTC TTG CTC ATC GTC CTC TGC CCT CAG CAC     818
Gly Pro Phe Phe Leu His Leu Leu Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Gln His
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         255                    260                    265

CCC ACC TGC AGC TGC ATC TTC AAG AAC TTC AAC CTC TTC CTC CTC CTC        866
Pro Thr Cys Ser Cys Ile Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Leu Leu
        270                    275                    280

ATC GTC CTC AGC TCC ACT GTT GAC CCC CTC ATC TAT GCT TTC CGC AGC        914
Ile Val Leu Ser Ser Thr Val Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser
285                    290                    295          300

CAG GAG CTC CGC ATG ACA CTC AAG GAG GTG CTG CTG TGC TCC TGG           959
Gln Glu Leu Arg Met Thr Leu Lys Glu Val Leu Leu Cys Ser Trp
                305                    310                315

TGATCAGAGG GCGCTGGGCA GAGGGTGACA GTGATATCCA GTGGCCTGCA TCTGTGAGAC      1019

CACAGGTACT CATCCCTTCC TGATCTCCAT TTGTCTAAGG GTCGACAGGA TGAGCTTTAA      1079

AATAGAAACC CAGAGTGCCT GGGGCCAGGA GAAAGGGTAA CTGTGACTGC AGGGCTCACC      1139

CAGGGCAGCT ACGGGAAGTG GAGGAGACAG GGATGGGAAC TCTAGCCCTG AGCAAGGGTC      1199

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C                                                                     1260
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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

      (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
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          (B) TYPE: amino acid
          (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

      (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

      (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

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Cys Leu Tyr Val Ser Ile Pro Asp Gly Leu Phe Leu Ser Leu Gly Leu
        35                  40                  45

Val Ser Leu Val Glu Asn Val Leu Val Val Ile Ala Ile Thr Lys Asn
    50                  55                  60

Arg Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Tyr Phe Ile Cys Cys Leu Ala Leu
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Ser Asp Leu Met Val Ser Val Ser Ile Val Leu Glu Thr Thr Ile Ile
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Leu Leu Leu Glu Val Gly Ile Leu Val Ala Arg Val Ala Leu Val Gln
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            115              120              125

Ser Leu Cys Phe Leu Gly Ile Ile Ala Ile Asp Arg Tyr Ile Ser Ile
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Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Arg
145              150              155              160

Arg Ala Val Val Gly Ile Trp Met Val Ser Ile Val Ser Ser Thr Leu
            165              170              175

Phe Ile Thr Tyr Tyr Lys His Thr Ala Val Leu Leu Cys Leu Val Thr
            180              185              190

Phe Phe Leu Ala Met Leu Ala Leu Met Ala Ile Leu Tyr Ala His Met
            195              200              205

Phe Thr Arg Ala Cys Gln His Val Gln Gly Ile Ala Gln Leu His Lys
    210              215              220

Arg Arg Arg Ser Ile Arg Gln Gly Phe Cys Leu Lys Gly Ala Ala Thr
225              230              235              240

Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp Gly Pro Phe Phe
            245              250              255

Leu His Leu Leu Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Gln His Pro Thr Cys Ser
            260              265              270

Cys Ile Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Leu Leu Ile Val Leu Ser
            275              280              285

Ser Thr Val Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg
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        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

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          (B) LOCATION: 1..461

     (ix) FEATURE:
          (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
          (B) LOCATION: 462..1415

     (ix) FEATURE:
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          (B) LOCATION: 1416..1633

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AGGACGGTCC AGAGGTGTCG AAATGTCCTG GGAACCTGAG CAGCAGCCAC CAGGGAAGAG   180

GCAGGGAGGG AGCTGAGGAC CAGGCTTGGT TGTGAGAATC CCTGAGCCCA GGCGGTTGAT   240

GCCAGGAGGT GTCTGGACTG GCTGGGCCAT GCCTGGGCTG ACCTGTCCAG CCAGGGAGAG   300

GGTGTGAGGG CAGATCTGGG GGTGCCCAGA TGGAAGGAGG CAGGCATGGG GACACCCAAG   360

GCCCCCTGGC AGCACCATGA ACTAAGCAGG ACACCTGGAG GGGAAGAACT GTGGGGACCT   420

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 85   90   95   100

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                          105   110   115

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TGC TTC CTG GGC GCC ATC GCC GTG GAC CGC TAC ATC TCC ATC TTC TAC         905
Cys Phe Leu Gly Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile Ser Ile Phe Tyr
        135                    140                    145

GCA CTG CGC TAC CAC AGC ATC GTG ACC CTG CCG CGG GCG CCG CGA GCC         953
Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Pro Arg Ala
        150                    155                    160

GTT GCG GCC ATC TGG GTG GCC AGT GTC GTC TTC AGC ACG CTC TTC ATC        1001
Val Ala Ala Ile Trp Val Ala Ser Val Val Phe Ser Thr Leu Phe Ile
165                    170                    175                    180

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Arg Pro Val His Gln Gly Phe Gly Leu Lys Gly Ala Val Thr Leu Thr
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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

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            (B) TYPE: amino acid
            (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

       (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

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            100   105   110

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Leu Ser Ser Leu Cys Phe Leu Gly Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile
    130   135   140

Ser Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Leu Pro Arg
145   150   155   160

Ala Pro Arg Ala Val Ala Ala Ile Trp Val Ala Ser Val Val Phe Ser
                165   170   175

Thr Leu Phe Ile Gly Tyr Tyr Asp His Val Ala Val Leu Leu Cys Leu
            180   185   190

Val Val Phe Phe Leu Ala Met Leu Val Leu Met Ala Val Leu Asp Val
        195   200   205

His Met Leu Ala Arg Ala Cys Gln His Ala Gln Gly Ile Ala Arg Leu
        210   215   220

His Lys Arg Gln Arg Pro Val His Gln Gly Phe Gly Leu Lys Gly Ala
225   230   235   240

Val Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp Gly Pro
                245   250   255

Phe Phe Leu His Leu Thr Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Glu His Pro Thr
            260   265   270

Cys Gly Cys Ile Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Ala Leu Ile Ile
        275   280   285

Cys Asn Ala Ile Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe His Ser Gln Glu
        290   295   300

Leu Arg Arg Thr Leu Lys Glu Val Leu Thr Cys Ser Trp *
305   310   315

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

        (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
            (A) LENGTH: 2012 base pairs
            (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
            (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
            (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

        (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

        (ix) FEATURE:
            (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR
            (B) LOCATION: 1..693

        (ix) FEATURE:
            (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
            (B) LOCATION: 694..1587

        (ix) FEATURE:
            (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR
            (B) LOCATION: 1588..2012

        (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

ACAACACTTT ATATATATTT TTATAAATGT AAGGGGTACA AAGGTGCCAT TTTGTTACAT   60

GGATATACCG TGTAGTGGTG AAGCCTGGGC TTTTAGTGTA TCTGTCATCA GAATAACATA   120

CGTGTTACCC ATAGGAATTT CTCATCACCC GCCCCCTCCA CCCTTCGAGT CTCCAATGTC   180

CATTCCACAC TCTATATCCA CGTGTATGCA TATAGCTCCA CATATAAGTG AGAACATGTA   240

GTATTTGACT TCCTCTTTCT GAGTTATTTC ACTTTGATAA TGGCCTCCAC TTCCATCCAT   300

GTTGCTGCAA AAGACATGAC CTTATTCTTT TTGATAGCTG GGGAGTACTC CATTGTGTAT   360

ATGTACCACA TTTCTTTATC CATTCACCCA TTGAGAACAC TTAGTTGATT CCATATCTTT   420

GCTATTGTCA CTAGTGCTGC AATAAACATA CATGTGCAGG CTCCTTCTAA TATACTGATT   480

TATATTTTAT GGAGAGAGAT AGAGTTCTTA GCGAGTGTGC TGTTTATTTC TAGTGTACTT   540

GCAACTAATA TTCTGTATAC TCCCTTTAGG TGATTGGAGA TTTAACTTAG ATCTCCAGCA   600

AGTGCTACAA GAAGAAAAGA TCCTGAAGAA TCAATCAAGT TTCCGTGAAG TCAAGTCCAA   660

GTAACATCCC CGCCTTAACC ACAAGCAGGA GAA ATG AAG CAC ATT ATC AAC TCG   714
                                    Met Lys His Ile Ile Asn Ser
                                     1   5

TAT GAA AAC ATC AAC AAC ACA GCA AGA AAT AAT TCC GAC TGT CCT CGT   762
Tyr Glu Asn Ile Asn Asn Thr Ala Arg Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Arg
         10   15   20

TGT GTT TTG CCG GAG GAG ATA TTT TTC ACA ATT TCC ATT GTT GGA GTT   810
Cys Val Leu Pro Glu Glu Ile Phe Phe Thr Ile Ser Ile Val Gly Val
     25   30   35

TTG GAG AAT CTG ATC GTC CTG CTG GCT GTG TTC AAG AAT AAG AAT CTC   858
Leu Glu Asn Leu Ile Val Leu Leu Ala Val Phe Lys Asn Lys Asn Leu
 40   45   50   55

CAG GCA CCC ATG TAC TTT TTC ATC TGT AGC TTG GCC ATA TCT GAT ATG   906
Gln Ala Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met
                 60   65   70

CTG GGC AGC CTA TAT AAG ATC TTG GAA AAT ATC CTG ATC ATA TTG AGA   954
Leu Gly Ser Leu Tyr Lys Ile Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Ile Ile Leu Arg
             75   80   85

AAC ATG GGC ATA CTC AAG CCA CGT GGC AGT TTT GAA ACC ACA GCC CAT   1002
Asn Met Gly Ile Leu Lys Pro Arg Gly Ser Phe Glu Thr Thr Ala His
             90   95   100

GAC ATC ATC GAC TCC CTG TTT CTG CTC TCC CGT CTT GGC TCC ATC TTC   1050
Asp Ile Ile Asp Ser Leu Phe Leu Leu Ser Arg Leu Gly Ser Ile Phe
     105   110   115

GAC CTG CTC GTG ATT GCT GCG GAC CGC TAC ATC ACC ATC TTC CAC GCA   1098
Asp Leu Leu Val Ile Ala Ala Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile Phe His Ala
120   125   130   135

CTG CGG TAC CAC AGC ATC GTG ACC ATG CGC CGC ACT⌣GTG GTG GTG CTT   1146
Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Met Arg Arg Thr Val Val Val Leu
                 140   145   150

ACG GTC ATC TGG ACG TTC TGC ACG GGG ACT GGC ATC ACC ATG GTG ATC   1194
Thr Val Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Thr Gly Thr Gly Ile Thr Met Val Ile

```
                 155                    160                    165

TTC TCC CAT CAT GTG CCC CAC GTG ATC ACC TTC ACG TCG CTG TTC CCG        1242
Phe Ser His His Val Pro His Val Ile Thr Phe Thr Ser Leu Phe Pro
            170                    175                    180

CTG ATG CTG GTC TTC ATC CTG TGC CTC TAT GTG CAC ATG TTC CTG CTG        1290
Leu Met Leu Val Phe Ile Leu Cys Leu Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu
        185                    190                    195

GCT CGA TGG CAC ACC AGG AAG ATC TCC ACC CTC CCC AGA GCC AAC ATG        1338
Ala Arg Trp His Thr Arg Lys Ile Ser Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Asn Met
200                    205                    210                    215

AAA GGG GCC ATG ACA CTG ACC ATC CTG CTC GGG GTC TTC ATC TTC TGC        1386
Lys Gly Ala Met Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys
                220                    225                    230

TGG GCC CCC TTT GTG CTT CAT GTC CTC TTG ATG ACA TTC TGC CCA AGT        1434
Trp Ala Pro Phe Val Leu His Val Leu Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ser
            235                    240                    245

AAC CCC TAC TGC GCC TGC TAC ATG TCT CTC TTC CAG GTG AAC GGC ATG        1482
Asn Pro Tyr Cys Ala Cys Tyr Met Ser Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Met
            250                    255                    260

TTG ATC ATG TGC AAT GCC GTC ATT GAC CCC TTC ATA TAT GCC TTC CGG        1530
Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ala Val Ile Asp Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg
        265                    270                    275


AGC CCA GAG CTC AGG GAC GCA TTC AAA AAG ATG ATC TTC TGC AGC AGG        1578
Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg Asp Ala Phe Lys Lys Met Ile Phe Cys Ser Arg
280                    285                    290                    295

TAC TGG TAG AATGGCTGAT CCCTGGTTTT AGAATCCATG GGAATAACGT               1627
Tyr Trp  *


TGCCAAGTGC CAGAATAGTG TAACATTCCA ACAAATGCCA GTGCTCCTCA CTGGCCTTCC      1687

TTCCCTAATG GATGCAAGGA TGACCCACCA GCTAGTGTTT CTGAATACTA TGGCCAGGAA      1747

CAGTCTATTG TAGGGGCAAC TCTATTTGTG ACTGGACAGA TAAAACGTGT AGTAAAAGAA      1807

GGATAGAATA CAAAGTATTA GGTACAAAG TAATTAGGTT TGCATTACTT ATGACAAATG       1867

CATTACTTTT GCACCAATCT AGTAAAACAG CAATAAAAAT TCAAGGGCTT TGGGCTAAGG      1927

CAAAGACTTG CTTTCCTGTG GACATTAACA AGCCAGTTCT GAGGCGGCCT TTCCAGGTGG      1987

AGGCCATTGC AGCCAATTTC AGAGT                                            2012
```

61

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
       (A) LENGTH: 297 amino acids
       (B) TYPE: amino acid
       (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

```
Met Lys His Ile Ile Asn Ser Tyr Glu Asn Ile Asn Asn Thr Ala Arg
 1               5                  10                  15

Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Arg Cys Val Leu Pro Glu Glu Ile Phe Phe
            20                  25                  30

Thr Ile Ser Ile Val Gly Val Leu Glu Asn Leu Ile Val Leu Leu Ala
        35                  40                  45

Val Phe Lys Asn Lys Asn Leu Gln Ala Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys
    50                  55                  60

Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met Leu Gly Ser Leu Tyr Lys Ile Leu Glu
65                  70                  75                  80

Asn Ile Leu Ile Ile Leu Arg Asn Met Gly Ile Leu Lys Pro Arg Gly
                85                  90                  95


Ser Phe Glu Thr Thr Ala His Asp Ile Ile Asp Ser Leu Phe Leu Leu
            100                 105                 110

Ser Arg Leu Gly Ser Ile Phe Asp Leu Leu Val Ile Ala Ala Asp Arg
        115                 120                 125

Tyr Ile Thr Ile Phe His Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Met
    130                 135                 140

Arg Arg Thr Val Val Val Leu Thr Val Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Thr Gly
145                 150                 155                 160

Thr Gly Ile Thr Met Val Ile Phe Ser His His Val Pro His Val Ile
            165                 170                 175

Thr Phe Thr Ser Leu Phe Pro Leu Met Leu Val Phe Ile Leu Cys Leu
            180                 185                 190

Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Trp His Thr Arg Lys Ile Ser
    195                 200                 205

Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Asn Met Lys Gly Ala Met Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu
    210                 215                 220

Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Val Leu His Val Leu
225                 230                 235                 240
```

```
Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ser Asn Pro Tyr Cys Ala Cys Tyr Met Ser
            245             250             255

Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Met Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ala Val Ile Asp
            260             265             270

Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg Asp Ala Phe Lys
            275             280             285

Lys Met Ile Phe Cys Ser Arg Tyr Trp  *
    290             295
```


(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
        (A) LENGTH: 1108 base pairs
        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR
        (B) LOCATION: 1..132

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
        (B) LOCATION: 133..1026

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR
        (B) LOCATION: 1027..1106

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

```
GGGGCCAGAA AGTTCCTGCT TCAGAGCAGA AGATCTTCAG CAAGAACTAC AAAGAAGAAA        60

AGATTCTGGA GAATCAATCA AGTTTCCTGT CAAGTTCCAG TAACGTTTCT GTCTTAACTG       120

CACACAGGAA AG ATG AAA CAC ATT CTC AAT CTG TAT GAA AAC CTC AAC           168
              Met Lys His Ile Leu Asn Leu Tyr Glu Asn Leu Asn
               1               5                   10

AGT ACA GCA AGA AAT AAC TCA GAC TGT CCT GCT GTG ATT TTG CCA GAA        216
Ser Thr Ala Arg Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Ala Val Ile Leu Pro Glu
        15                  20                  25

GAG ATA TTT TTC ACA GTA TCC ATT GTT GGG GTT TTG GAG AAC CTG ATG        264
Glu Ile Phe Phe Thr Val Ser Ile Val Gly Val Leu Glu Asn Leu Met
    30                  35                  40
```

```
GTC CTT CTG GCT GTG GCC AAG AAT AAG ATG CTT CAG TCG CCC ATG TAC        312
Val Leu Leu Ala Val Ala Lys Asn Lys Met Leu Gln Ser Pro Met Tyr
 45              50              55                      60

TTT TTC ATC TGC AGC TTG GCT ATT TCC GAT ATG CTG GGG AGC ATG TAC        360
Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met Leu Gly Ser Met Tyr
                65                      70              75

AAG ATT TTG GAA AAC GTT CTG ATC ATG TTC AAA AAC ATG GGT TAC CTC        408
Lys Ile Leu Glu Asn Val Leu Ile Met Phe Lys Asn Met Gly Tyr Leu
            80              85              90

GAG CCT CGA GGC AGT TTT GAA AGC ACA GCA GAT GAT GTG GTG GAC TCC        456
Glu Pro Arg Gly Ser Phe Glu Ser Thr Ala Asp Asp Val Val Asp Ser
        95              100             105

CTG TTC ATC CTC TCC CTT CTC GGC TCC ATC TGC AGC CTG TCT GTG ATT        504
Leu Phe Ile Leu Ser Leu Leu Gly Ser Ile Cys Ser Leu Ser Val Ile
    110             115             120

GCC GCT GAC CGC TAC ACT ACA ATC TTC CAC GCT CTG CAG TAC CAC CGC        552
Ala Ala Asp Arg Tyr Thr Thr Ile Phe His Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Arg
125             130             135             140

ATC ATG ACC CCC GCA CCG TGC CCT CGT CAT CTG ACG GTC CTC TGG CGA        600
Ile Met Thr Pro Ala Pro Cys Pro Arg His Leu Thr Val Leu Trp Arg
                145             150             155

GGC TGC ACA GGC AGT GGC ATT ACC ATC GTG ACC TTC TCC CAT CAC GTC        648
Gly Cys Thr Gly Ser Gly Ile Thr Ile Val Thr Phe Ser His His Val
                160             165             170

CCC ACA GTG ATC GCC TTC ACA GCG CTG TTC CCG CTG ATG CTG GCC TTC        696
Pro Thr Val Ile Ala Phe Thr Ala Leu Phe Pro Leu Met Leu Ala Phe
            175             180             185

ATC CTG TGC CTC TAC GTG CAC ATG TTC CTG CTG GCC CGC TCC CAC ACC        744
Ile Leu Cys Leu Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Ser His Thr
            190             195             200

AGG AGG ACC CCC TCC CTT CCC AAA GCC AAC ATG AGA GGG GCC GTC ACA        792
Arg Arg Thr Pro Ser Leu Pro Lys Ala Asn Met Arg Gly Ala Val Thr
205             210             215             220

CTG ACT GTC CTG CTC GGG GTC TTC ATT TTC TGT TGG GCA CCC TTT GTC        840
Leu Thr Val Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Val
                225             230             235

CTT CAT GTC CTC TTG ATG ACA TTC TGC CCA GCT GAC CCC TAC TGT GCC        888
Leu His Val Leu Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ala Asp Pro Tyr Cys Ala
                240             245             250

TGC TAC ATG TCC CTC TTC CAG GTG AAT GGT GTG TTG ATC ATG TGT AAT        936
Cys Tyr Met Ser Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Val Leu Ile Met Cys Asn
                255             260             265
```

```
GCC ATC ATC GAC CCC TTC ATA TAT GCC TTT CGG AGC CCA GAG CTC AGG        984
Ala Ile Ile Asp Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg
    270                 275                 280

GTC GCA TTC AAA AAG ATG GTT ATC TGC AAC TGT TAC CAG TAG               1026
Val Ala Phe Lys Lys Met Val Ile Cys Asn Cys Tyr Gln  *
285                 290                 295

AATGATTGGT CCCTGATTTT AGGAGCCACA GGGATATACT GTCAGGGACA GAGTAGCGTG     1086

ACAGACCAAC AACACTAGGA CT                                             1108
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

      (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
          (A) LENGTH: 297 amino acids
          (B) TYPE: amino acid
          (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

      (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

      (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

```
Met Lys His Ile Leu Asn Leu Tyr Glu Asn Leu Asn Ser Thr Ala Arg
 1               5                  10                  15

Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Ala Val Ile Leu Pro Glu Glu Ile Phe Phe
            20                  25                  30

Thr Val Ser Ile Val Gly Val Leu Glu Asn Leu Met Val Leu Leu Ala
            35                  40                  45

Val Ala Lys Asn Lys Met Leu Gln Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys
    50                  55                  60

Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met Leu Gly Ser Met Tyr Lys Ile Leu Glu
65                  70                  75                  80

Asn Val Leu Ile Met Phe Lys Asn Met Gly Tyr Leu Glu Pro Arg Gly
                85                  90                  95

Ser Phe Glu Ser Thr Ala Asp Asp Val Val Asp Ser Leu Phe Ile Leu
            100                 105                 110

Ser Leu Leu Gly Ser Ile Cys Ser Leu Ser Val Ile Ala Ala Asp Arg
            115                 120                 125

Tyr Thr Thr Ile Phe His Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Arg Ile Met Thr Pro
    130                 135                 140

Ala Pro Cys Pro Arg His Leu Thr Val Leu Trp Arg Gly Cys Thr Gly
145                 150                 155                 160

Ser Gly Ile Thr Ile Val Thr Phe Ser His His Val Pro Thr Val Ile
```

```
                    165                      170                      175

Ala Phe Thr Ala Leu Phe Pro Leu Met Leu Ala Phe Ile Leu Cys Leu
            180                      185                      190

Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Ser His Thr Arg Arg Thr Pro
            195                      200                      205

Ser Leu Pro Lys Ala Asn Met Arg Gly Ala Val Thr Leu Thr Val Leu
        210                      215                      220

Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Val Leu His Val Leu
225                      230                      235                      240

Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ala Asp Pro Tyr Cys Ala Cys Tyr Met Ser
            245                      250                      255

Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Val Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ala Ile Ile Asp
            260                      265                      270

Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg Val Ala Phe Lys
        275                      280                      285

Lys Met Val Ile Cys Asn Cys Tyr Gln  *
    290                      295
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
        (A) LENGTH: 1338 base pairs
        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR
        (B) LOCATION: 1..297

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
        (B) LOCATION: 298..1269

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR
        (B) LOCATION: 1270..1338

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

GGCTGTAACT GTAGCAACCG GTGTTGGGTG GGGATGAGAA GAGACCAGAG AGAGAGAGGG   60

TCAGAGCGAC AGGGGATGAG ACAGGCTGGT CAGAGTCTGC ACTGATTGTT GGAGACGCAA   120

AGGAAAGTTT TTTCTATGTC TCCAACCTCC CCCTCCTCCC CCGTTTCTCT CTGGAGAAAC   180

TAAAATGTAG ACTGGACAGC ATCCACAAGA GAAGCACCTA GAAGAAGATT TTTTTTTCCC   240

AGCAGCTTGC TCAGGACCCT GCAGGAGCTG CAGCCGGAAC TGGTCCCGCC GATAACC   297

```
ATG AAC TCT TCC TGC TGC CCG TCC TCC TCT TAT CCG ACG CTG CCT AAC          345
Met Asn Ser Ser Cys Cys Pro Ser Ser Ser Tyr Pro Thr Leu Pro Asn
 1               5                  10                  15

CTC TCC CAG CAC CCT GCA GCC CCC TCT GCC AGC AAC CGG AGT GGC AGT          393
Leu Ser Gln His Pro Ala Ala Pro Ser Ala Ser Asn Arg Ser Gly Ser
            20                  25                  30


GGG TTC TGC GAG CAG GTT TTC ATC AAG CCA GAG GTC TTC CTG GCA CTG          441
Gly Phe Cys Glu Gln Val Phe Ile Lys Pro Glu Val Phe Leu Ala Leu
        35                  40                  45

GGC ATC GTC AGT CTG ATG GAA AAC ATC CTG GTG ATC CTG GCT GTG GTG          489
Gly Ile Val Ser Leu Met Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Val Val
    50                  55                  60

AGG AAC GGC AAC CTG CAC TCC CCC ATG TAC TTC TTC CTG CTG AGC CTG          537
Arg Asn Gly Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Leu Leu Ser Leu
65                  70                  75                  80

CTG CAG GCC GAC CTG CTG GTG AGC CTG TCC AAC TCC CTG GAG ACC ATC          585
Leu Gln Ala Asp Leu Leu Val Ser Leu Ser Asn Ser Leu Glu Thr Ile
                85                  90                  95

ATG ATC GTG GTT ATC AAC AGC GAC TCC CTG ACC TTG GAG GAC CAA TTC          633
Met Ile Val Val Ile Asn Ser Asp Ser Leu Thr Leu Glu Asp Gln Phe
                100                 105                 110

ATC CAG CAC ATG GAC AAC ATC TTC GAC TCT ATG ATC TGC ATC TCC CTG          681
Ile Gln His Met Asp Asn Ile Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Leu
        115                 120                 125

GTG GCC TCC ATC TGC AAC CTC CTG GCC ATC GCC GTG GAC AGG TAC GTC          729
Val Ala Ser Ile Cys Asn Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Val
    130                 135                 140

ACC ATC TTC TAT GCC CTC CGT TAC CAC AGC ATC ATG ACG GTT AGG AAA          777
Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Met Thr Val Arg Lys
145                 150                 155                 160

GCC CTC TCC TTG ATC GTG GCC ATC TGG GTC TGC TGT GGC ATC TGC GGC          825
Ala Leu Ser Leu Ile Val Ala Ile Trp Val Cys Cys Gly Ile Cys Gly
            165                 170                 175

GTG ATG TTC ATC GTC TAC TCC GAG AGC AAG ATG GTC ATC GTG TGC CTC          873
Val Met Phe Ile Val Tyr Ser Glu Ser Lys Met Val Ile Val Cys Leu
            180                 185                 190
```

```
ATC ACC ATG TTC TTC GCC ATG GTG CTC CTC ATG GGC ACC CTG TAC ATC        921
Ile Thr Met Phe Phe Ala Met Val Leu Leu Met Gly Thr Leu Tyr Ile
        195                 200                 205

CAC ATG TTC CTC TTC GCC AGG CTG CAC GTC CAG CGC ATC GCG GCA CTG        969
His Met Phe Leu Phe Ala Arg Leu His Val Gln Arg Ile Ala Ala Leu
        210                 215                 220

CCA CCT GCT GAC GGG CTA GCC CCG CAG CAG CAC TCG TGC ATG AAG GGG       1017
Pro Pro Ala Asp Gly Leu Ala Pro Gln Gln His Ser Cys Met Lys Gly
225                 230                 235                 240


GCC GTC ACC ATC ACC ATC CTG CTG GGG GTT TTC ATC TTC TGC TGG GCG       1065
Ala Val Thr Ile Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala
                245                 250                 255

CCT TTC TTC CTC CAC CTG GTC CTC ATC ATC ACC TGC CCC ACC AAC CCC       1113
Pro Phe Phe Leu His Leu Val Leu Ile Ile Thr Cys Pro Thr Asn Pro
                260                 265                 270

TAC TGC ATC TGC TAC ACG GCG CAC TTC AAC ACC TAC CTG GTT CTC ATC       1161
Tyr Cys Ile Cys Tyr Thr Ala His Phe Asn Thr Tyr Leu Val Leu Ile
        275                 280                 285

ATG TGC AAC TCT GTC ATC GAC CCC CTC ATC TAC GCC TTC CGC AGC CTG       1209
Met Cys Asn Ser Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Leu
        290                 295                 300

GAG CTG CGA AAC ACC TTC AAG GAG ATT CTC TGC GGT TGC AAT GGC ATG       1257
Glu Leu Arg Asn Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Leu Cys Gly Cys Asn Gly Met
305                 310                 315                 320

AAC GTG GGC TAG GAACCCCCGA GGAGGTGTTC CACGGCTAGC CAAGAGAGAA           1309
Asn Val Gly *

AAGCAATGCT CAGGTGAGAC ACAGAAGGG                                       1338
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
        (A) LENGTH: 323 amino acids
        (B) TYPE: amino acid
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

```
Met Asn Ser Ser Cys Cys Pro Ser Ser Ser Tyr Pro Thr Leu Pro Asn
1               5                   10                  15
```

```
Leu Ser Gln His Pro Ala Ala Pro Ser Ala Ser Asn Arg Ser Gly Ser
            20              25              30

Gly Phe Cys Glu Gln Val Phe Ile Lys Pro Glu Val Phe Leu Ala Leu
            35              40              45

Gly Ile Val Ser Leu Met Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Val Val
        50              55              60

Arg Asn Gly Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Leu Leu Ser Leu
65              70              75                      80

Leu Gln Ala Asp Leu Leu Val Ser Leu Ser Asn Ser Leu Glu Thr Ile
                85              90              95

Met Ile Val Val Ile Asn Ser Asp Ser Leu Thr Leu Glu Asp Gln Phe
            100             105             110

Ile Gln His Met Asp Asn Ile Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Leu
        115             120             125

Val Ala Ser Ile Cys Asn Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Val
    130             135             140

Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Met Thr Val Arg Lys
145             150             155             160

Ala Leu Ser Leu Ile Val Ala Ile Trp Val Cys Cys Gly Ile Cys Gly
            165             170             175

Val Met Phe Ile Val Tyr Ser Glu Ser Lys Met Val Ile Val Cys Leu
        180             185             190

Ile Thr Met Phe Phe Ala Met Val Leu Leu Met Gly Thr Leu Tyr Ile
        195             200             205

His Met Phe Leu Phe Ala Arg Leu His Val Gln Arg Ile Ala Ala Leu
    210             215             220

Pro Pro Ala Asp Gly Leu Ala Pro Gln Gln His Ser Cys Met Lys Gly
225             230             235             240

Ala Val Thr Ile Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala
            245             250             255

Pro Phe Phe Leu His Leu Val Leu Ile Ile Thr Cys Pro Thr Asn Pro
            260             265             270

Tyr Cys Ile Cys Tyr Thr Ala His Phe Asn Thr Tyr Leu Val Leu Ile
        275             280             285

Met Cys Asn Ser Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Leu
    290             295             300

Glu Leu Arg Asn Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Leu Cys Gly Cys Asn Gly Met
305             310             315             320
```

69

Asn Val Gly *

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:

        (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
             (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
             (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
             (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
             (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

        (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

        (ix) FEATURE:
             (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
             (B) LOCATION: 1..30
             (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate
                  oligonucleotide primer (sense)"

        (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

GAGTCGACCR CCCATGTAYT DYTTCATCTG   30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

        (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
             (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
             (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
             (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
             (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

        (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

        (ix) FEATURE:
             (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
             (B) LOCATION: 1..30
             (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate
                  oligonucleotide primer (sense)"

        (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

CAGAATTCGG AARGCRTAKA TGARGGGGTC   30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:

        (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
             (A) LENGTH: 1671 base pairs
             (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
             (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
             (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA

(ix) FEATURE:
    (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR
    (B) LOCATION: 1..393

(ix) FEATURE:
    (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
    (B) LOCATION: 394..1389

(ix) FEATURE:
    (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR
    (B) LOCATION: 1390..1671

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

```
AGCTTCCGAG AGGCAGCCGA TGTGAGCATG TGCGCACAGA TTCGTCTCCC AATGGCATGG          60

CAGCTTCAAG GAAAATTATT TTGAACAGAC TTGAATGCAT AAGATTAAAG TTAAAGCAGA         120

AGTGAGAACA AGAAAGCAAA GAGCAGACTC TTTCAACTGA GAATGAATAT TTTGAAGCCC         180

AAGATTTTAA CGTGATGATG ATTAGAGTCG TACCTAAAAG AGACTAAAAA CTCCATGTCA         240

AGCTCTGGAC TTGTGACATT TACTCACAGC AGGCATGGCA ATTTTAGCCT CACAACTTTC         300

AGACAGATAA AGACTTGGAG GAAATAACTG AGACGACTCC CTGACCCAGG AGGTTAAATC         360

AATTCAGGGG GACACTGGAA TTCTCCTGCC AGC ATG GTG AAC TCC ACC CAC CGT         414
                                     Met Val Asn Ser Thr His Arg
                                      1                   5

GGG ATG CAC ACT TCT CTG CAC CTC TGG AAC CGC AGC AGT TAC AGA CTG         462
Gly Met His Thr Ser Leu His Leu Trp Asn Arg Ser Ser Tyr Arg Leu
         10                  15                  20

CAC AGC AAT GCC AGT GAG TCC CTT GGA AAA GGC TAC TCT GAT GGA GGG         510
His Ser Asn Ala Ser Glu Ser Leu Gly Lys Gly Tyr Ser Asp Gly Gly
     25                  30                  35

TGC TAC GCG CAA CTT TTT GTC TCT CCT GAG GTG TTT GTG ACT CTG GGT         558
Cys Tyr Ala Gln Leu Phe Val Ser Pro Glu Val Phe Val Thr Leu Gly
 40                  45                  50                  55

GTG ATC AGC TTG TTG GAG AAT ATC TTA GAG ATT GTG GCA ATA GCC AAG         606
Val Ile Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Glu Ile Val Ala Ile Ala Lys
                 60                  65                  70

AAC AAG AAT CTG CAT TCA CCC ATG TAC TTT TTC ATC TGC AGC TTG GCT         654
Asn Lys Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala
             75                  80                  85

GTG GCT GAT ATG CTG GTG AGC GTT TCA AAT GGA TCA GAA ACC ATT ATC         702
Val Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Val Ser Asn Gly Ser Glu Thr Ile Ile
         90                  95                 100
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71

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ATC ACC CTA TTA AAC CGT ACA GAT ACG GAT GCA CAG AGT TTC ACA GTG        750
Ile Thr Leu Leu Asn Arg Thr Asp Thr Asp Ala Gln Ser Phe Thr Val
    105                 110                 115

AAT ATT GAT AAT GTC ATT GAC TCG GTG ATC TGT AGC TCC TTG CTT GCA        798
Asn Ile Asp Asn Val Ile Asp Ser Val Ile Cys Ser Ser Leu Leu Ala
120                 125                 130                 135

TCC ATT TGC AGC CTG CTT TCA ATT GCA GTG GAC AGG TAC TTT ACT ATC        846
Ser Ile Cys Ser Leu Leu Ser Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Phe Thr Ile
                140                 145                 150

TTC TAT GCT CTC CAG TAC CAT AAC ATT ATG ACA GTT AAG CGG GTT GGG        894
Phe Tyr Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Asn Ile Met Thr Val Lys Arg Val Gly
                155                 160                 165

ATC AGC ATA AGT TGT ATC TGG GCA GCT TGC ACG GTT TCA GGT ATT TTG        942
Ile Ser Ile Ser Cys Ile Trp Ala Ala Cys Thr Val Ser Gly Ile Leu
            170                 175                 180

TTC ATC ATT TAC TCA GAT AGT AGT GCT GTC ATC ATC TGC CTC ATC ACC        990
Phe Ile Ile Tyr Ser Asp Ser Ser Ala Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Thr
    185                 190                 195

ATG TTC TTC ACC ATG CTG GCT CTC ATG GCT TCT CTC TAT GTC CAC CTG       1038
Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Ala Leu Met Ala Ser Leu Tyr Val His Leu
200                 205                 210                 215

TTC CTG ATG GCC AGG CTT CAC ATT AAG AGG ATT GCT GTC CTC CCC GGC       1086
Phe Leu Met Ala Arg Leu His Ile Lys Arg Ile Ala Val Leu Pro Gly
                220                 225                 230

ACT GGT GCC ATC CGC CAA GGT GCC AAT ATG AAG GGA GCG ATT ACC TTG       1134
Thr Gly Ala Ile Arg Gln Gly Ala Asn Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu
                235                 240                 245

ACC ATC CTG ATT GGC GTC TTT GTT GTC TGC TGG GCC CCA TTC TTC CTC       1182
Thr Ile Leu Ile Gly Val Phe Val Val Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Phe Leu
            250                 255                 260

CAC TTA ATA TTC TAC ATC TCT TGT CCT CAG AAT CCA TAT TGT GTG TGC       1230
His Leu Ile Phe Tyr Ile Ser Cys Pro Gln Asn Pro Tyr Cys Val Cys
    265                 270                 275

TTC ATG TCT CAC TTT AAC TTG TAT CTC ATA CTG ATC ATG TGT AAT TCA       1278
Phe Met Ser His Phe Asn Leu Tyr Leu Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser
280                 285                 290                 295

ATC ATC GAT CCT CTG ATT TAT GCA CTC CGG AGT CAA GAA CTG AGG AAA       1326
Ile Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu Arg Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg Lys
                300                 305                 310

ACC TTC AAA GAG ATC ATC TCT TCC TAT CCC CTG GGA GGC CTT TGT GAC       1374
Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Ile Ser Ser Tyr Pro Leu Gly Gly Leu Cys Asp
```

                    315   320   325

TTG TCT AGC AGA TAT TAAATGGGGA CAGAGCACGC AATATAGGAA CATCCATAAG   1429
Leu Ser Ser Arg Tyr
        330

AGACTTTTTC ACTCTTACCC TACCTGAATA TTCTACTTCT GCAACAGCTT TCTCTTCCGT   1489

GTAGGGTACT GGTTGAGATA TCCATTGTGT AAATTTAAGC CTATGATTTT TAATGAGAAA   1549

AAATGCCCAG TCTCTGTATT ATTTCCAATC TCATGCTACT TTTTTGGCCA TAAAATATGA   1609

ATCTATGTTA TAGGTTGTAG GCACTGTGGA TTTACAAAAA GAAAAGTCCT TATTAAAAGA   1669

TT   1671

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:16:

        (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
            (A) LENGTH: 332 amino acids
            (B) TYPE: amino acid
            (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

        (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

        (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

Met Val Asn Ser Thr His Arg Gly Met His Thr Ser Leu His Leu Trp
 1   5   10   15

Asn Arg Ser Ser Tyr Arg Leu His Ser Asn Ala Ser Glu Ser Leu Gly
            20   25   30

Lys Gly Tyr Ser Asp Gly Gly Cys Tyr Ala Gln Leu Phe Val Ser Pro
        35   40   '   45

Glu Val Phe Val Thr Leu Gly Val Ile Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu
    50   55   60

Glu Ile Val Ala Ile Ala Lys Asn Lys Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr
65   70   75   .   80

Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala Val Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Val Ser
            85   90   95

Asn Gly Ser Glu Thr Ile Ile Ile Thr Leu Leu Asn Arg Thr Asp Thr
            100   105   110

Asp Ala Gln Ser Phe Thr Val Asn Ile Asp Asn Val Ile Asp Ser Val
        115   120   ᴗ 125

Ile Cys Ser Ser Leu Leu Ala Ser Ile Cys Ser Leu Leu Ser Ile Ala
    130   135   140

Val Asp Arg Tyr Phe Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Asn Ile

                              73

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145                    150                    155                    160
```

Met Thr Val Lys Arg Val Gly Ile Ser Ile Ser Cys Ile Trp Ala Ala
              165   170   175

Cys Thr Val Ser Gly Ile Leu Phe Ile Ile Tyr Ser Asp Ser Ser Ala
              180   185   190

Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Thr Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Ala Leu Met
              195   200   205

Ala Ser Leu Tyr Val His Leu Phe Leu Met Ala Arg Leu His Ile Lys
              210   215   220

Arg Ile Ala Val Leu Pro Gly Thr Gly Ala Ile Arg Gln Gly Ala Asn
225   230   235   240

Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Ile Gly Val Phe Val Val
              245   250   255

Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Phe Leu His Leu Ile Phe Tyr Ile Ser Cys Pro
              260   265   270

Gln Asn Pro Tyr Cys Val Cys Phe Met Ser His Phe Asn Leu Tyr Leu
              275   280   285

Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser Ile Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu
              290   295   300

Arg Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg Lys Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Ile Ser Ser Tyr
305   310   315   320

Pro Leu Gly Gly Leu Cys Asp Leu Ser Ser Arg Tyr
              325   330

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

     (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
          (A) LENGTH: 978 base pairs
          (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
          (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
          (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

     (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

     (ix) FEATURE:
          (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
          (B) LOCATION: 1..975

     (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

ATG AAC TCC TCC TCC ACC CTG ACT GTA TTG AAT CTT ACC CTG AAC GCC   48

```
Met Asn Ser Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Val Leu Asn Leu Thr Leu Asn Ala
 1               5                   10                  15
```

```
TCA GAG GAT GGC ATT TTA GGA TCA AAT GTC AAG AAC AAG TCT TTG GCC        96
Ser Glu Asp Gly Ile Leu Gly Ser Asn Val Lys Asn Lys Ser Leu Ala
             20                  25                  30
```

```
TGT GAA GAA ATG GGC ATT GCC GTG GAG GTG TTC CTG ACC CTG GGT CTC       144
Cys Glu Glu Met Gly Ile Ala Val Glu Val Phe Leu Thr Leu Gly Leu
         35                  40                  45
```

```
GTC AGC CTC TTA GAG AAC ATC CTG GTC ATT GGG GCC ATA GTA AAG AAC       192
Val Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Gly Ala Ile Val Lys Asn
     50                  55                  60
```

```
AAA AAC CTG CAC TCA CCC ATG TAC TTC TTT GTG GGC AGC TTA GCC GTG       240
Lys Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Val Gly Ser Leu Ala Val
 65                  70                  75                  80
```

```
GCC GAC ATG CTG GTG AGC ATG TCC AAT GCC TGG GAG ACT GTC ACC ATA       288
Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Met Ser Asn Ala Trp Glu Thr Val Thr Ile
             85                  90                  95
```

```
TAC TTG CTA AAT AAT AAA CAC CTG GTG ATA GCC GAC ACC TTT GTG CGA       336
Tyr Leu Leu Asn Asn Lys His Leu Val Ile Ala Asp Thr Phe Val Arg
             100                 105                 110
```

```
CAC ATC GAC AAC GTG TTC GAC TCC ATG ATC TGC ATC TCT GTG GTG GCC       384
His Ile Asp Asn Val Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Val Val Ala
         115                 120                 125
```

```
TCG ATG TGC AGT TTG CTG GCC ATT GCG GTG GAT AGG TAC ATC ACC ATC       432
Ser Met Cys Ser Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile
     130                 135                 140
```

```
TTC TAT GCC TTG CGC TAC CAC CAC ATC ATG ACC GCG AGG CGC TCG GGG       480
Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His His Ile Met Thr Ala Arg Arg Ser Gly
145                 150                 155                 160
```

```
GTG ATC ATC GCC TGC ATT TGG ACC TTC TGC ATA AGC TGC GGC ATT GTT       528
Val Ile Ile Ala Cys Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Ile Ser Cys Gly Ile Val
                 165                 170                 175
```

```
TTC ATC ATC TAC TAT GAG TCC AAG TAT GTG ATC ATT TGC CTC ATC TCC       576
Phe Ile Ile Tyr Tyr Glu Ser Lys Tyr Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Ser
             180                 185                 190
```

```
ATG TTC TTC ACC ATG CTG TTC TTC ATG GTG TCT CTG TAT ATA CAC ATG       624
Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Phe Phe Met Val Ser Leu Tyr Ile His Met
         195                 200                 205
```

```
TTC CTC CTG GCC CGG AAC CAT GTC AAG CGG ATA GCA GCT TCC CCC AGA       672
Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Asn His Val Lys Arg Ile Ala Ala Ser Pro Arg
     210                 215                 220
```

```
TAC AAC TCC GTG AGG CAA AGG ACC AGC ATG AAG GGG GCT ATT ACC CTC      720
Tyr Asn Ser Val Arg Gln Arg Thr Ser Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu
225             230             235             240

ACC ATG CTA CTG GGG ATT TTC ATT GTC TGC TGG TCT CCC TTC TTT CTT      768
Thr Met Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Ile Val Cys Trp Ser Pro Phe Phe Leu
                245             250             255

CAC CTT ATC TTA ATG ATC TCC TGC CCT CAG AAC GTC TAC TGC TCT TGC      816
His Leu Ile Leu Met Ile Ser Cys Pro Gln Asn Val Tyr Cys Ser Cys
                260             265             270

TTT ATG TCT TAC TTC AAC ATG TAC CTT ATA CTC ATC ATG TGC AAC TCC      864
Phe Met Ser Tyr Phe Asn Met Tyr Leu Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser
                275             280             285


GTG ATC GAT CCT CTC ATC TAC GCC CTC CGC AGC CAA GAG ATG CGG AGG      912
Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu Arg Ser Gln Glu Met Arg Arg
    290             295             300

ACC TTT AAG GAG ATC GTC TGT TGT CAC GGA TTC CGG CGA CCT TGT AGG      960
Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Val Cys Cys His Gly Phe Arg Arg Pro Cys Arg
305             310             315             320

CTC CTT GGC GGG TAT TAA                                              978
Leu Leu Gly Gly Tyr
                325
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

      (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
          (A) LENGTH: 325 amino acids
          (B) TYPE: amino acid
          (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

     (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

     (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

```
Met Asn Ser Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Val Leu Asn Leu Thr Leu Asn Ala
1               5               10              15

Ser Glu Asp Gly Ile Leu Gly Ser Asn Val Lys Asn Lys Ser Leu Ala
            20              25              30

Cys Glu Glu Met Gly Ile Ala Val Glu Val Phe Leu Thr Leu Gly Leu
        35              40              45

Val Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Gly Ala Ile Val Lys Asn
    50              55              60

Lys Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Val Gly Ser Leu Ala Val
```

```
        65                    70                    75                    80
    Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Met Ser Asn Ala Trp Glu Thr Val Thr Ile
                    85                    90                    95

    Tyr Leu Leu Asn Asn Lys His Leu Val Ile Ala Asp Thr Phe Val Arg
                100                   105                   110

    His Ile Asp Asn Val Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Val Val Ala
                115                   120                   125

    Ser Met Cys Ser Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile
        130                   135                   140

    Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His His Ile Met Thr Ala Arg Arg Ser Gly
    145                   150                   155                   160

    Val Ile Ile Ala Cys Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Ile Ser Cys Gly Ile Val
                    165                   170                   175

    Phe Ile Ile Tyr Tyr Glu Ser Lys Tyr Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Ser
                180                   185                   190

    Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Phe Phe Met Val Ser Leu Tyr Ile His Met
        195                   200                   205

    Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Asn His Val Lys Arg Ile Ala Ala Ser Pro Arg
        210                   215                   220

    Tyr Asn Ser Val Arg Gln Arg Thr Ser Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu
    225                   230                   235                   240

    Thr Met Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Ile Val Cys Trp Ser Pro Phe Phe Leu
                    245                   250                   255

    His Leu Ile Leu Met Ile Ser Cys Pro Gln Asn Val Tyr Cys Ser Cys
                260                   265                   270

    Phe Met Ser Tyr Phe Asn Met Tyr Leu Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser
        275                   280                   285

    Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu Arg Ser Gln Glu Met Arg Arg
        290                   295                   300

    Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Val Cys Cys His Gly Phe Arg Arg Pro Cys Arg
    305                   310                   315                   320

    Leu Leu Gly Gly Tyr
                    325
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
        (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs

        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

    (ix) FEATURE:
        (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
        (B) LOCATION: 1..32
        (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate
            oligonucleotide primer (antisense)"

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

GAATTCGACG TCACAGTATG ACGGCCATGG   30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:20:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
        (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:

CTAGGATAGG GGAACTGTAG T   21

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
        (A) LENGTH: 22 base pairs
        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

    (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

    (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:

GAGGATTGGG AAGACAATAG CA   22

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22:

    (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

        (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
        (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
        (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
        (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

   (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

   (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

ATGAACTCCT CCTCCACCCT G   21

WE CLAIM:

1.   A method of assaying a test compound for binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor, the method comprising the following steps:

(a)   providing a first primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue in an animal expressing the melanocortin receptor;

(b)   providing a second primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from the tissue of subpart (a) and derived from an animal carrying a disrupted genetic sequence encoding the melanocortin receptor wherein the disrupted allele cannot produce the melanocortin receptor in the cell;

(c)   contacting the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b) with the test compound;

(d)   detecting binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b); and

(e)   comparing binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) with binding of the test compound to cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).

2.   The method of Claim 1 wherein the test compound is detectably labeled.

3.   The method of Claim 2 wherein the test compound is detectably labeled with a radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label.

4.   The method of Claim 1 wherein binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) is detected by assaying for a metabolite produced in the cells that bind the test compound.

5.   The method of Claim 4 wherein the metabolite is cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP).

6.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a cAMP responsive element transcription factor binding site operatively

linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite.

7.   The method of Claim 6 wherein the nucleic acid sequence encodes β-galactosidase.

8.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R.

9.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.

10.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a homozygous condition.

11.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

(a)   contacting the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subparts (a) and (b) with a detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist prior to contacting the eukaryotic cell cultures with the test compound;

(b)   comparing binding of the detectably labeled melanocortin agonist or antagonist in the presence and absence of the test compound for each of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subparts (a) and (b); and

(c)   comparing inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) with inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).

12.   The method of Claim 11 wherein the detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist is detectably labeled with a radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label.

13.   The method of Claim 11 wherein binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) is detected by assaying for a metabolite produced in the cells that bind the test compound.

14.   The method of Claim 13 wherein the metabolite is cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP).

15.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a cAMP responsive element transcription factor binding site operatively linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite.

16.   The method of Claim 15 wherein the nucleic acid sequence encodes β-galactosidase.

17.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R.

18.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.

19.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a homozygous condition.

20.   A recombinant expression construct comprising a portion of a nucleic acid encoding a melanocortin receptor gene, covalently linked to a nucleic acid comprising 5' or 3' untranslated sequence flanking the melanocortin receptor gene, · a first selectable marker covalently linked immediately adjacent to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, and a second selectable marker covalently linked distal to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, wherein introduction of the recombinant expression construct into a eukaryotic cell produces a cell having a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by the recombinant expression construct.

21.   A recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20 wherein the melanocortin gene is MC5-R.

22.   A recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20 wherein the first selectable marker comprises a nucleic acid encoding a *neo*, *hyg*^{R}, or *gpt* gene.

23.   A recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20 wherein the second selectable marker comprises a nucleic acid encoding a herpesvirus thymidine kinase gene.

24.   A eukaryotic cell transformed with the recombinant expression construct of Claim 20, wherein the cell comprises a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by the recombinant expression construct.

25.   A eukaryotic cell according to Claim 24, wherein the cell is an embryonic stem cell.

26.   A transgenic animal comprising a cell in a tissue of the animal wherein an endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is disrupted by a recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20.

27.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 26 wherein the cell is a germ cell.

28.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 27 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is MC5-R.

29.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 27 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.

30.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 27 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is a homozygous condition.

31.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 26 wherein the cell is an exocrine gland cell.

32.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the cell is a lacrimal gland cell, a Harderian gland cell, a sebaceous gland cell or a preputial gland cell.

33.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is MC5-R.

34.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.

35.   A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is a homozygous condition.

36.   A method of assaying a test compound for binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor, the method comprising the following steps:

(a)   providing a cell panel comprising a first mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC1-R receptor, a second mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC2-R receptor, a third mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC3-R receptor, a fourth mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC4-R receptor, wherein each mammalian cell expresses the melanocortin receptor encoded by the recombinant expression construct comprising the cell, and a fifth mammalian cell culture comprising a primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue in an animal expressing a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC5-R receptor;

(b)   contacting each of the cells of the panel with an agonist or antagonist· of the mammalian melanocortin receptor in an amount sufficient to produce a detectable metabolite in the cells that bind the agonist or antagonist, in the presence or absence of a test compound; and

(c)   detecting the amount of the metabolite produced in each cell in the panel in the presence of the test compound with the amount of the metabolite produced in each cell in the absence of each test compound.

FIG. 1A

```
TTCCTGACAA GACT ATG TCC ACT CAG GAG CCC CAG AAG AGT CTT CTG GGT        50
            Met Ser Thr Gln Glu Pro Gln Lys Ser Leu Leu Gly
             1                   5                   10

TCT CTC AAC TCC AAT GCC ACC TCT CAC CTT GGA CTG GCC ACC AAC CAG        98
Ser Leu Asn Ser Asn Ala Thr Ser His Leu Gly Leu Ala Thr Asn Gln
         15              20                  25

TCA GAG CCT TGG TGC CTG TAT GTG TCC ATC CCA GAT GGC CTC TTC CTC       146
Ser Glu Pro Trp Cys Leu Tyr Val Ser Ile Pro Asp Gly Leu Phe Leu
     30              35                  40

AGC CTA GGG CTG GTG AGT CTG GTG GAG AAT GTG CTG GTT GTG ATA GCC       194
Ser Leu Gly Leu Val Ser Leu Val Glu Asn Val Leu Val Val Ile Ala
 45                  50                  55                  60

ATC ACC AAA AAC CGC AAC CTG CAC TCG CCC ATG TAT TAC TTC ATC TGC       242
Ile Thr Lys Asn Arg Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Tyr Phe Ile Cys
             65                  70                  75

TGC CTG GCC CTG TCT GAC CTG ATG GTA AGT GTC AGC ATC GTG CTG GAG       290
Cys Leu Ala Leu Ser Asp Leu Met Val Ser Val Ser Ile Val Leu Glu
             80                  85                  90

ACT ACT ATC ATC CTG CTG CTG GAG GTG GGC ATC CTG GTG GCC AGA GTG       338
Thr Thr Ile Ile Leu Leu Leu Glu Val Gly Ile Leu Val Ala Arg Val
             95                  100                 105

GCT TTG GTG CAG CAG CTG GAC AAC CTC ATT GAC GTG CTC ATC TGT GGC       386
Ala Leu Val Gln Gln Leu Asp Asn Leu Ile Asp Val Leu Ile Cys Gly
     110                 115                 120

TCC ATG GTG TCC AGT CTC TGC TTC CTG GGC ATC ATT GCT ATA GAC CGC       434
Ser Met Val Ser Ser Leu Cys Phe Leu Gly Ile Ile Ala Ile Asp Arg
125                 130                 135                 140

TAC ATC TCC ATC TTC TAT GCG CTG CGT TAT CAC AGC ATC GTG ACG CTG       482
Tyr Ile Ser Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Leu
                145                 150                 155

CCC AGA GCA CGA CGG GCT GTC GTG GGC ATC TGG ATG GTC AGC ATC GTC       530
Pro Arg Ala Arg Arg Ala Val Val Gly Ile Trp Met Val Ser Ile Val
                160                 165                 170
```

FIG. 1B

```
TCC AGC ACC CTC TTT ATC ACC TAC TAC AAG CAC ACA GCC GTT CTG CTC        578
Ser Ser Thr Leu Phe Ile Thr Tyr Tyr Lys His Thr Ala Val Leu Leu
        175                 180                 185

TGC CTC GTC ACT TTC TTT CTA GCC ATG CTG GCA CTC ATG GCG ATT CTG        626
Cys Leu Val Thr Phe Phe Leu Ala Met Leu Ala Leu Met Ala Ile Leu
        190                 195                 200

TAT GCC CAC ATG TTC ACG AGA GCG TGC CAG CAC GTC CAG GGC ATT GCC        674
Tyr Ala His Met Phe Thr Arg Ala Cys Gln His Val Gln Gly Ile Ala
205                 210                 215                 220

CAG CTC CAC AAA AGG CGG CGG TCC ATC CGC CAA GGC TTC TGC CTC AAG        722
Gln Leu His Lys Arg Arg Arg Ser Ile Arg Gln Gly Phe Cys Leu Lys
                225                 230                 235

GGT GCT GCC ACC CTT ACT ATC CTT CTG GGG ATT TTC TTC CTG TGC TGG        770
Gly Ala Ala Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp
                240                 245                 250

GGC CCC TTC TTC CTG CAT CTC TTG CTC ATC GTC CTC TGC CCT CAG CAC        818
Gly Pro Phe Phe Leu His Leu Leu Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Gln His
                255                 260                 265

CCC ACC TGC AGC TGC ATC TTC AAG AAC TTC AAC CTC TTC CTC CTC CTC        866
Pro Thr Cys Ser Cys Ile Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Leu Leu
        270                 275                 280

ATC GTC CTC AGC TCC ACT GTT GAC CCC CTC ATC TAT GCT TTC CGC AGC        914
Ile Val Leu Ser Ser Thr Val Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser
285                 290                 295                 300

CAG GAG CTC CGC ATG ACA CTC AAG GAG GTG CTG CTG TGC TCC TGG              959
Gln Glu Leu Arg Met Thr Leu Lys Glu Val Leu Leu Cys Ser Trp
                305                 310                 315

TGATCAGAGG GCGCTGGGCA GAGGGTGACA GTGATATCCA GTGGCCTGCA TCTGTGAGAC       1019

CACAGGTACT CATCCCTTCC TGATCTCCAT TTGTCTAAGG GTCGACAGGA TGAGCTTTAA       1079

AATAGAAACC CAGAGTGCCT GGGGCCAGGA GAAAGGGTAA CTGTGACTGC AGGGCTCACC       1139

CAGGGCAGCT ACGGGAAGTG GAGGAGACAG GGATGGGAAC TCTAGCCCTG AGCAAGGGTC       1199

AGACCACAGG CTCCTGAAGA GCTTCACCTC TCCCCACCTA CAGGCAACTC CTGCTCAAGC       1259

C                                                                      1260
```

FIG. 2A

```
CCCGCATGTG GCCGCCCTCA ATGGAGGGCT CTGAGAACGA CTTTTAAAAC GCAGAGAAAA      60

AGCTCCATTC TTCCCAGACC TCAGCGCAGC CCTGGCCCAG GAAGGGAGGA GACAGAGGCC     120

AGGACGGTCC AGAGGTGTCG AAATGTCCTG GGAACCTGAG CAGCAGCCAC CAGGGAAGAG     180

GCAGGGAGGG AGCTGAGGAC CAGGCTTGGT TGTGAGAATC CCTGAGCCCA GGCGGTTGAT     240

GCCAGGAGGT GTCTGGACTG GCTGGGCCAT GCCTGGGCTG ACCTGTCCAG CCAGGGAGAG     300

GGTGTGAGGG CAGATCTGGG GGTGCCCAGA TGGAAGGAGG CAGGCATGGG GACACCCAAG     360

GCCCCCTGGC AGCACCATGA ACTAAGCAGG ACACCTGGAG GGGAAGAACT GTGGGGACCT     420

GGAGGCCTCC AACGACTCCT TCCTGCTTCC TGGACAGGAC T ATG GCT GTG CAG        473
                                            Met Ala Val Gln
                                             1
```

```
GGA TCC CAG AGA AGA CTT CTG GGC TCC CTC AAC TCC ACC CCC ACA GCC      521
Gly Ser Gln Arg Arg Leu Leu Gly Ser Leu Asn Ser Thr Pro Thr Ala
 5                10                 15                    20

ATC CCC CAG CTG GGG CTG GCT GCC AAC CAG ACA GGA GCC CGG TGC CTG      569
Ile Pro Gln Leu Gly Leu Ala Ala Asn Gln Thr Gly Ala Arg Cys Leu
                 25                 30                    35

GAG GTG TCC ATC TCT GAC GGG CTC TTC CTC AGC CTG GGG CTG GTG AGC      617
Glu Val Ser Ile Ser Asp Gly Leu Phe Leu Ser Leu Gly Leu Val Ser
             40                 45                    50

TTG GTG GAG AAC GCG CTG GTG GTG GCC ACC ATC GCC AAG AAC CGG AAC      665
Leu Val Glu Asn Ala Leu Val Val Ala Thr Ile Ala Lys Asn Arg Asn
         55                 60                 65

CTG CAC TCA CCC ATG TAC TGC TTC ATC TGC TGC CTG GCC TTG TCG GAC      713
Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Cys Phe Ile Cys Cys Leu Ala Leu Ser Asp
     70                 75                 80

CTG CTG GTG AGC GGG ACG AAC GTG CTG GAG ACG GCC GTC ATC CTC CTG      761
Leu Leu Val Ser Gly Thr Asn Val Leu Glu Thr Ala Val Ile Leu Leu
 85                 90                 95                   100

CTG GAG GCC GGT GCA CTG GTG GCC CGG GCT GCG GTG CTG CAG CAG CTG      809
Leu Glu Ala Gly Ala Leu Val Ala Arg Ala Ala Val Leu Gln Gln Leu
                105                110                115

GAC AAT GTC ATT GAC GTG ATC ACC TGC AGC TCC ATG CTG TCC AGC CTC      857
Asp Asn Val Ile Asp Val Ile Thr Cys Ser Ser Met Leu Ser Ser Leu
                120                125                130

TGC TTC CTG GGC GCC ATC GCC GTG GAC CGC TAC ATC TCC ATC TTC TAC      905
Cys Phe Leu Gly Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile Ser Ile Phe Tyr
            135                140                145

GCA CTG CGC TAC CAC AGC ATC GTG ACC CTG CCG CGG GCG CCG CGA GCC      953
Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Pro Arg Ala
            150                155                160
```

FIG. 2B

```
GTT GCG GCC ATC TGG GTG GCC AGT GTC GTC TTC AGC ACG CTC TTC ATC        1001
Val Ala Ala Ile Trp Val Ala Ser Val Val Phe Ser Thr Leu Phe Ile
165             170             175             180

GCC TAC TAC GAC CAC GTG GCC GTC CTG CTG TGC CTC GTG GTC TTC TTC        1049
Ala Tyr Tyr Asp His Val Ala Val Leu Leu Cys Leu Val Val Phe Phe
                185             190             195

CTG GCT ATG CTG GTG CTC ATG GCC GTG CTG TAC GTC CAC ATG CTG GCC        1097
Leu Ala Met Leu Val Leu Met Ala Val Leu Tyr Val His Met Leu Ala
                200             205             210

CGG GCC TGC CAG CAC GCC CAG GGC ATC GCC CGG CTC CAC AAG AGG CAG        1145
Arg Ala Cys Gln His Ala Gln Gly Ile Ala Arg Leu His Lys Arg Gln
                215             220             225

CGC CCG GTC CAC CAG GGC TTT GGC CTT AAA GGC GCT GTC ACC CTC ACC        1193
Arg Pro Val His Gln Gly Phe Gly Leu Lys Gly Ala Val Thr Leu Thr
    230             235             240

ATC CTG CTG GGC ATT TTC TTC CTC TGC TGG GGC CCC TTC TTC CTG CAT        1241
Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp Gly Pro Phe Phe Leu His
245             250             255             260

CTC ACA CTC ATC GTC CTC TGC CCC GAG CAC CCC ACG TGC GGC TGC ATC        1289
Leu Thr Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Glu His Pro Thr Cys Gly Cys Ile
                265             270             275

TTC AAG AAC TTC AAC CTC TTT CTC GCC CTC ATC ATC TGC AAT GCC ATC        1337
Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Ala Leu Ile Ile Cys Asn Ala Ile
                280             285             290

ATC GAC CCC CTC ATC TAC GCC TTC CAC AGC CAG GAG CTC CGC AGG ACG        1385
Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe His Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg Arg Thr
                295             300             305

CTC AAG GAG GTG CTG ACA TGC TCC TGG TGAGCGCGGT GCACGCGCTT             1432
Leu Lys Glu Val Leu Thr Cys Ser Trp
                310             315

TAAGTGTGCT GGGCAGAGGG AGGTGGTGAT ATTGTGGTCT GGTTCCTGTG TGACCCTGGG     1492

CAGTTCCTTA CCTCCCTGGT CCCCGTTTGT CAAAGAGGAT GGACTAAATG ATCTCTGAAA     1552

GTGTTGAAGC GCGGACCCTT CTGGGCAGGG AGGGGTCCTG CAAAACTCCA GGCAGGACTT     1612

CTCACCAGCA GTCGTGGGAA C                                               1633
```

FIG. 3A

```
ACAACACTTT ATATATATTT TTATAAATGT AAGGGGTACA AAGGTGCCAT TTTGTTACAT      60

GGATATACCG TGTAGTGGTG AAGCCTGGGC TTTTAGTGTA TCTGTCATCA GAATAACATA     120

CGTGTTACCC ATAGGAATTT CTCATCACCC GCCCCCTCCA CCCTTCGAGT CTCCAATGTC     180

CATTCCACAC TCTATATCCA CGTGTATGCA TATAGCTCCA CATATAAGTG AGAACATGTA     240

GTATTTGACT TCCTCTTTCT GAGTTATTTC ACTTTGATAA TGGCCTCCAC TTCCATCCAT     300

GTTGCTGCAA AAGACATGAC CTTATTCTTT TTGATAGCTG GGGAGTACTC CATTGTGTAT     360

ATGTACCACA TTTCTTTATC CATTCACCCA TTGAGAACAC TTAGTTGATT CCATATCTTT     420

GCTATTGTCA CTAGTGCTGC AATAAACATA CATGTGCAGG CTCCTTCTAA TATACTGATT     480

TATATTTTAT GGAGAGAGAT AGAGTTCTTA GCGAGTGTGC TGTTTATTTC TAGTGTACTT     540

GCAACTAATA TTCTGTATAC TCCCTTTAGG TGATTGGAGA TTTAACTTAG ATCTCCAGCA     600

AGTGCTACAA GAAGAAAAGA TCCTGAAGAA TCAATCAAGT TTCCGTGAAG TCAAGTCCAA     660

GTAACATCCC CGCCTTAACC ACAAGCAGGA GAA ATG AAG CAC ATT ATC AAC TCG     714
                                    Met Lys His Ile Ile Asn Ser
                                     1                   5

TAT GAA AAC ATC AAC AAC ACA GCA AGA AAT AAT TCC GAC TGT CCT CGT     762
Tyr Glu Asn Ile Asn Asn Thr Ala Arg Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Arg
         10              15               20

GTG GTT TTG CCG GAG GAG ATA TTT TTC ACA ATT TCC ATT GTT GGA GTT     810
Val Val Leu Pro Glu Glu Ile Phe Phe Thr Ile Ser Ile Val Gly Val
     25              30               35

TTG GAG AAT CTG ATC GTC CTG CTG GCT GTG TTC AAG AAT AAG AAT CTC     858
Leu Glu Asn Leu Ile Val Leu Leu Ala Val Phe Lys Asn Lys Asn Leu
 40              45               50               55

CAG GCA CCC ATG TAC TTT TTC ATC TGT AGC TTG GCC ATA TCT GAT ATG     906
Gln Ala Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met
                 60               65               70

CTG GGC AGC CTA TAT AAG ATC TTG GAA AAT ATC CTG ATC ATA TTG AGA     954
Leu Gly Ser Leu Tyr Lys Ile Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Ile Ile Leu Arg
                 75               80               85

AAC ATG GGC TAT CTC AAG CCA CGT GGC AGT TTT GAA ACC ACA GCC GAT    1002
Asn Met Gly Tyr Leu Lys Pro Arg Gly Ser Phe Glu Thr Thr Ala Asp
                 90               95              100

GAC ATC ATC GAC TCC CTG TTT GTC CTC TCC CTG CTT GGC TCC ATC TTC    1050
Asp Ile Ile Asp Ser Leu Phe Val Leu Ser Leu Leu Gly Ser Ile Phe
                105              110              115
```

FIG. 3B

```
AGC CTG TCT GTG ATT GCT GCG GAC CGC TAC ATC ACC ATC TTC CAC GCA      1098
Ser Leu Ser Val Ile Ala Ala Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile Phe His Ala
120             125             130             135

CTG CGG TAC CAC AGC ATC GTG ACC ATG CGC CGC ACT GTG GTG GTG CTT      1146
Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Met Arg Arg Thr Val Val Val Leu
            140             145             150

ACG GTC ATC TGG ACG TTC TGC ACG GGG ACT GGC ATC ACC ATG GTG ATC      1194
Thr Val Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Thr Gly Thr Gly Ile Thr Met Val Ile
            155             160             165

TTC TCC CAT CAT GTG CCC ACA GTG ATC ACC TTC ACG TCG CTG TTC CCG      1242
Phe Ser His His Val Pro Thr Val Ile Thr Phe Thr Ser Leu Phe Pro
            170             175             180

CTG ATG CTG GTC TTC ATC CTG TGC CTC TAT GTG CAC ATG TTC CTG CTG      1290
Leu Met Leu Val Phe Ile Leu Cys Leu Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu
    185             190             195

GCT CGA TCC CAC ACC AGG AAG ATC TCC ACC CTC CCC AGA GCC AAC ATG      1338
Ala Arg Ser His Thr Arg Lys Ile Ser Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Asn Met
200             205             210             215

AAA GGG GCC ATC ACA CTG ACC ATC CTG CTC GGG GTC TTC ATC TTC TGC      1386
Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys
            220             225             230

TGG GCC CCC TTT GTG CTT CAT GTC CTC TTG ATG ACA TTC TGC CCA AGT      1434
Trp Ala Pro Phe Val Leu His Val Leu Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ser
            235             240             245

AAC CCC TAC TGC GCC TGC TAC ATG TCT CTC TTC CAG GTG AAC GGC ATG      1482
Asn Pro Tyr Cys Ala Cys Tyr Met Ser Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Met
            250             255             260

TTG ATC ATG TGC AAT GCC GTC ATT GAC CCC TTC ATA TAT GCC TTC CGG      1530
Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ala Val Ile Asp Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg
    265             270             275

AGC CCA GAG CTC AGG GAC GCA TTC AAA AAG ATG ATC TTC TGC AGC AGG      1578
Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg Asp Ala Phe Lys Lys Met Ile Phe Cys Ser Arg
280             285             290             295

TAC TGG TAGAATGGCT GATCCCTGGT TTTAGAATCC ATGGGAATAA CGTTGCCAAG      1634
Tyr Trp

TGCCAGAATA GTGTAACATT CCAACAAATG CCAGTGCTCC TCACTGGCCT TCCTTCCCTA      1694
ATGGATGCAA GGATGACCCA CCAGCTAGTG TTTCTGAATA CTATGGCCAG GAACAGTCTA      1754
TTGTAGGGGC AACTCTATTT GTGACTGGAC AGATAAAACG TGTAGTAAAA GAAGGATAGA      1814
ATACAAAGTA TTAGGTACAA AAGTAATTAG GTTTGCATTA CTTATGACAA ATGCATTACT      1874
TTTGCACCAA TCTAGTAAAA CAGCAATAAA AATTCAAGGG CTTTGGGCTA AGGCAAAGAC      1934
TTGCTTTCCT GTGGACATTA ACAAGCCAGT TCTGAGGCGG CCTTTCCAGG TGGAGGCCAT      1994
TGCAGCCAAT TTCAGAGT                                                    2012
```

FIG. 4A

```
GGGGCCAGAA AGTTCCTGCT TCAGAGCAGA AGATCTTCAG CAAGAACTAC AAAGAAGAAA      60

AGATTCTGGA GAATCAATCA AGTTTCCTGT CAAGTTCCAG TAACGTTTCT GTCTTAACTG      120

CACACAGGAA AG ATG AAA CAC ATT CTC AAT CTG TAT GAA AAC ATC AAC         168
              Met Lys His Ile Leu Asn Leu Tyr Glu Asn Ile Asn
               1               5               10

AGT ACA GCA AGA AAT AAC TCA GAC TGT CCT GCT GTG ATT TTG CCA GAA       216
Ser Thr Ala Arg Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Ala Val Ile Leu Pro Glu
        15               20               25

GAG ATA TTT TTC ACA GTA TCC ATT GTT GGG GTT TTG GAG AAC CTG ATG       264
Glu Ile Phe Phe Thr Val Ser Ile Val Gly Val Leu Glu Asn Leu Met
    30               35               40

GTC CTT CTG GCT GTG GCC AAG AAT AAG AGT CTT CAG TCG CCC ATG TAC       312
Val Leu Leu Ala Val Ala Lys Asn Lys Ser Leu Gln Ser Pro Met Tyr
45               50               55               60

TTT TTC ATC TGC AGC TTG GCT ATT TCC GAT ATG CTG GGG AGC CTG TAC       360
Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met Leu Gly Ser Leu Tyr
                65               70               75

AAG ATT TTG GAA AAC GTT CTG ATC ATG TTC AAA AAC ATG GGT TAC CTC       408
Lys Ile Leu Glu Asn Val Leu Ile Met Phe Lys Asn Met Gly Tyr Leu
            80               85               90

GAG CCT CGA GGC AGT TTT GAA AGC ACA GCA GAT GAT GTG GTG GAC TCC       456
Glu Pro Arg Gly Ser Phe Glu Ser Thr Ala Asp Asp Val Val Asp Ser
            95               100              105

CTG TTC ATC CTC TCC CTT CTC GGC TCC ATC TGC AGC CTG TCT GTG ATT       504
Leu Phe Ile Leu Ser Leu Leu Gly Ser Ile Cys Ser Leu Ser Val Ile
    110              115              120

GCC GCT GAC CGC TAC ATC ACA ATC TTC CAC GCT CTG CAG TAC CAC CGC       552
Ala Ala Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile Phe His Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Arg
125              130              135              140

ATC ATG ACC CCC GCA CCG TGC CCT CGT CAT CTG ACG GTC CTC TGG GCA       600
Ile Met Thr Pro Ala Pro Cys Pro Arg His Leu Thr Val Leu Trp Ala
            145              150              155

GGC TGC ACA GGC AGT GGC ATT ACC ATC GTG ACC TTC TCC CAT CAC GTC       648
Gly Cys Thr Gly Ser Gly Ile Thr Ile Val Thr Phe Ser His His Val
            160              165              170

CCC ACA GTG ATC GCC TTC ACA GCG CTG TTC CCG CTG ATG CTG GCC TTC       696
Pro Thr Val Ile Ala Phe Thr Ala Leu Phe Pro Leu Met Leu Ala Phe
            175              180              185

ATC CTG TGC CTC TAC GTG CAC ATG TTC CTG CTG GCC CGC TCC CAC ACC       744
Ile Leu Cys Leu Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Ser His Thr
    190              195              200

AGG AGG ACC CCC TCC CTT CCC AAA GCC AAC ATG AGA GGG GCC GTC ACA       792
Arg Arg Thr Pro Ser Leu Pro Lys Ala Asn Met Arg Gly Ala Val Thr
205              210              215              220
```

FIG. 4B

```
CTG ACT GTC CTG CTC GGG GTC TTC ATT TTC TGT TGG GCA CCC TTT GTC      840
Leu Thr Val Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Val
            225                 230                 235

CTT CAT GTC CTC TTG ATG ACA TTC TGC CCA GCT GAC CCC TAC TGT GCC      888
Leu His Val Leu Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ala Asp Pro Tyr Cys Ala
            240                 245                 250

TGC TAC ATG TCC CTC TTC CAG GTG AAT GGT GTG TTG ATC ATG TGT AAT      936
Cys Tyr Met Ser Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Val Leu Ile Met Cys Asn
            255                 260                 265

GCC ATC ATC GAC CCC TTC ATA TAT GCC TTT CGG AGC CCA GAG CTC AGG      984
Ala Ile Ile Asp Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg
            270                 275                 280

GTC GCA TTC AAA AAG ATG GTT ATC TGC AAC TGT TAC CAG TAGAATGATT      1033
Val Ala Phe Lys Lys Met Val Ile Cys Asn Cys Tyr Gln
285                 290                 295

GGTCCCTGAT TTTAGGAGCC ACAGGGATAT ACTGTCAGGG ACAGAGTAGC GTGACAGACC    1093

AACAACACTA GGACT                                                    1108
```

FIG. 5A

```
GGCTGTAACT GTAGCAACCG GTGTTGGGTG GGGATGAGAA GAGACCAGAG AGAGAGAGGG        60

TCAGAGCGAC AGGGGATGAG ACAGGCTGGT CAGAGTCTGC ACTGATTGTT GGAGACGCAA       120

AGGAAAGTTT TTTCTATGTC TCCAACCTCC CCCTCCTCCC CCGTTTCTCT CTGGAGAAAC       180

TAAAATCTAG ACTGGACAGC ATCCACAAGA GAAGCACCTA GAAGAAGATT TTTTTTTCCC       240

AGCAGCTTGC TCAGGACCCT GCAGGAGCTG CAGCCGGAAC TGGTCCCGCC GATAACC         297
```

```
ATG AAC TCT TCC TGC TGC CCG TCC TCC TCT TAT CCG ACG CTG CCT AAC        345
Met Asn Ser Ser Cys Cys Pro Ser Ser Ser Tyr Pro Thr Leu Pro Asn
 1               5                  10                 15

CTC TCC CAG CAC CCT GCA GCC CCC TCT GCC AGC AAC CGG AGT GGC AGT        393
Leu Ser Gln His Pro Ala Ala Pro Ser Ala Ser Asn Arg Ser Gly Ser
            20                  25                  30

GGG TTC TGC GAG CAG GTT TTC ATC AAG CCA GAG GTC TTC CTG GCA CTG        441
Gly Phe Cys Glu Gln Val Phe Ile Lys Pro Glu Val Phe Leu Ala Leu
        35                  40                  45

GGC ATC GTC AGT CTG ATG GAA AAC ATC CTG GTG ATC CTG GCT GTG GTG        489.
Gly Ile Val Ser Leu Met Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Val Val
    50                  55                  60

AGG AAC GGC AAC CTG CAC TCC CCC ATG TAC TTC TTC CTG CTG AGC CTG        537
Arg Asn Gly Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Leu Leu Ser Leu
65                  70                  75                  80

CTG CAG GCC GAC ATG CTG GTG AGC CTG TCC AAC TCC CTG GAG ACC ATC        585
Leu Gln Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Leu Ser Asn Ser Leu Glu Thr Ile
            85                  90                  95

ATG ATC GTG GTT ATC AAC AGC GAC TCC CTG ACC TTG GAG GAC CAA TTC        633
Met Ile Val Val Ile Asn Ser Asp Ser Leu Thr Leu Glu Asp Gln Phe
            100                 105                 110

ATC CAG CAC ATG GAC AAC ATC TTC GAC TCT ATG ATC TGC ATC TCC CTG        681
Ile Gln His Met Asp Asn Ile Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Leu
            115                 120                 125

GTG GCC TCC ATC TGC AAC CTC CTG GCC ATC GCC GTG GAC AGG TAC GTC        729
Val Ala Ser Ile Cys Asn Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Val
    130                 135                 140

ACC ATC TTC TAT GCC CTC CGT TAC CAC AGC ATC ATG ACG GTT AGG AAA        777
Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Met Thr Val Arg Lys
145                 150                 155                 160

GCC CTC TCC TTG ATC GTG GCC ATC TGG GTC TGC TGT GGC ATC TGC GGC        825
Ala Leu Ser Leu Ile Val Ala Ile Trp Val Cys Cys Gly Ile Cys Gly
            165                 170                 175

GTG ATG TTC ATC GTC TAC TCC GAG AGC AAG ATG GTC ATC GTG TGC CTC        873
Val Met Phe Ile Val Tyr Ser Glu Ser Lys Met Val Ile Val Cys Leu
            180                 185                 190
```

FIG. 5B

```
ATC ACC ATG TTC TTC GCC ATG GTG CTC CTC ATG GGC ACC CTG TAC ATC     921
Ile Thr Met Phe Phe Ala Met Val Leu Leu Met Gly Thr Leu Tyr Ile
        195             200             205

CAC ATG TTC CTC TTC GCC AGG CTG CAC GTC CAG CGC ATC GCG GCA CTG     969
His Met Phe Leu Phe Ala Arg Leu His Val Gln Arg Ile Ala Ala Leu
        210             215             220

CCA CCT GCT GAC GGG GTA GCC CCG CAG CAG CAC TCG TGC ATG AAG GGG     1017
Pro Pro Ala Asp Gly Val Ala Pro Gln Gln His Ser Cys Met Lys Gly
225             230             235             240

GCC GTC ACC ATC ACC ATC CTG CTG GGG GTT TTC ATC TTC TGC TGG GCG     1065
Ala Val Thr Ile Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala
            245             250             255

CCT TTC TTC CTC CAC CTG GTC CTC ATC ATC ACC TGC CCC ACC AAC CCC     1113
Pro Phe Phe Leu His Leu Val Leu Ile Ile Thr Cys Pro Thr Asn Pro
        260             265             270

TAC TGC ATC TGC TAC ACG GCG CAC TTC AAC ACC TAC CTG GTT CTC ATC     1161
Tyr Cys Ile Cys Tyr Thr Ala His Phe Asn Thr Tyr Leu Val Leu Ile
        275             280             285

ATG TGC AAC TCT GTC ATC GAC CCC CTC ATC TAC GCC TTC CGC AGC CTG     1209
Met Cys Asn Ser Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Leu
        290             295             300

GAG CTG CGA AAC ACC TTC AAG GAG ATT CTC TGC GGT TGC AAT GGC ATG     1257
Glu Leu Arg Asn Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Leu Cys Gly Cys Asn Gly Met
305             310             315             320

AAC GTG GGC TAGGAACCCC CGAGGAGGTG TTCCACGGCT AGCCAAGAGA            1306
Asn Val Gly

GAAAAGCAAT GCTCAGGTGA GACACAGAAG GG                                 1338
```

FIG. 6A

```
AGCTTCCGAG AGGCAGCCGA TGTGAGCATG TGCGCACAGA TTCGTCTCCC AATGGCATGG        60

CAGCTTCAAG GAAAATTATT TTGAACAGAC TTGAATGCAT AAGATTAAAG TTAAAGCAGA       120

AGTGAGAACA AGAAAGCAAA GAGCAGACTC TTTCAACTGA GAATGAATAT TTTGAAGCCC       180

AAGATTTTAA AGTGATGATG ATTAGAGTCG TACCTAAAAG AGACTAAAAA CTCCATGTCA       240

AGCTCTGGAC TTGTGACATT TACTCACAGC AGGCATGGCA ATTTTAGCCT CACAACTTTC       300

AGACAGATAA AGACTTGGAG GAAATAACTG AGACGACTCC CTGACCCAGG AGGTTAAATC       360

AATTCAGGGG GACACTGGAA TTCTCCTGCC AGC ATG GTG AAC TCC ACC CAC CGT        414
                                    Met Val Asn Ser Thr His Arg
                                     1                       5

GGG ATG CAC ACT TCT CTG CAC CTC TGG AAC CGC AGC AGT TAC AGA CTG        462
Gly Met His Thr Ser Leu His Leu Trp Asn Arg Ser Ser Tyr Arg Leu
        10              15                  20

CAC AGC AAT GCC AGT GAG TCC CTT GGA AAA GGC TAC TCT GAT GGA GGG        510
His Ser Asn Ala Ser Glu Ser Leu Gly Lys Gly Tyr Ser Asp Gly Gly
    25                  30                  35

TGC TAC GAG CAA CTT TTT GTC TCT CCT GAG GTG TTT GTG ACT CTG GGT        558
Cys Tyr Glu Gln Leu Phe Val Ser Pro Glu Val Phe Val Thr Leu Gly
 40                  45                  50                      55

GTG ATC AGC TTG TTG GAG AAT ATC TTA GTG ATT GTG GCA ATA GCC AAG        606
Val Ile Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Val Ala Ile Ala Lys
                60                  65                  70

AAC AAG AAT CTG CAT TCA CCC ATG TAC TTT TTC ATC TGC AGC TTG GCT        654
Asn Lys Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala
            75                  80                  85

GTG GCT GAT ATG CTG GTG AGC GTT TCA AAT GGA TCA GAA ACC ATT ATC        702
Val Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Val Ser Asn Gly Ser Glu Thr Ile Ile
        90                  95                  100

ATC ACC CTA TTA AAC AGT ACA GAT ACG GAT GCA CAG AGT TTC ACA GTG        750
Ile Thr Leu Leu Asn Ser Thr Asp Thr Asp Ala Gln Ser Phe Thr Val
    105                 110                 115

AAT ATT GAT AAT GTC ATT GAC TCG GTG ATC TGT AGC TCC TTG CTT GCA        798
Asn Ile Asp Asn Val Ile Asp Ser Val Ile Cys Ser Ser Leu Leu Ala
120                 125                 130                 135

TCC ATT TGC AGC CTG CTT TCA ATT GCA GTG GAC AGG TAC TTT ACT ATC        846
Ser Ile Cys Ser Leu Leu Ser Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Phe Thr Ile
                140                 145                 150

TTC TAT GCT CTC CAG TAC CAT AAC ATT ATG ACA GTT AAG CGG GTT GGG        894
Phe Tyr Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Asn Ile Met Thr Val Lys Arg Val Gly
            155                 160                 165

ATC AGC ATA AGT TGT ATC TGG GCA GCT TGC ACG GTT TCA GGC ATT TTG        942
Ile Ser Ile Ser Cys Ile Trp Ala Ala Cys Thr Val Ser Gly Ile Leu
        170                 175                 180
```

FIG. 6B

```
TTC ATC ATT TAC TCA GAT AGT AGT GCT GTC ATC ATC TGC CTC ATC ACC          990
Phe Ile Ile Tyr Ser Asp Ser Ser Ala Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Thr
    185             190             195

ATG TTC TTC ACC ATG CTG GCT CTC ATG GCT TCT CTC TAT GTC CAC CTG         1038
Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Ala Leu Met Ala Ser Leu Tyr Val His Leu
200             205             210             215

TTC CTG ATG GCC AGG CTT CAC ATT AAG AGG ATT GCT GTC CTC CCC GGC         1086
Phe Leu Met Ala Arg Leu His Ile Lys Arg Ile Ala Val Leu Pro Gly
                220             225             230

ACT GGT GCC ATC CGC CAA GGT GCC AAT ATG AAG GGA GCG ATT ACC TTG         1134
Thr Gly Ala Ile Arg Gln Gly Ala Asn Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu
                235             240             245

ACC ATC CTG ATT GGC GTC TTT GTT GTC TGC TGG GCC CCA TTC TTC CTC         1182
Thr Ile Leu Ile Gly Val Phe Val Val Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Phe Leu
            250             255             260

CAC TTA ATA TTC TAC ATC TCT TGT CCT CAG AAT CCA TAT TGT GTG TGC         1230
His Leu Ile Phe Tyr Ile Ser Cys Pro Gln Asn Pro Tyr Cys Val Cys
    265             270             275

TTC ATG TCT CAC TTT AAC TTG TAT CTC ATA CTG ATC ATG TGT AAT TCA         1278
Phe Met Ser His Phe Asn Leu Tyr Leu Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser
280             285             290             295

ATC ATC GAT CCT CTG ATT TAT GCA CTC CGG AGT CAA GAA CTG AGG AAA         1326
Ile Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu Arg Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg Lys
                300             305             310

ACC TTC AAA GAG ATC ATC TCT TCC TAT CCC CTG GGA GGC CTT TGT GAC         1374
Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Ile Ser Ser Tyr Pro Leu Gly Gly Leu Cys Asp
                315             320             325

TTG TCT AGC AGA TAT TAAATGGGGA CAGAGCACGC AATATAGGAA CATCCATAAG         1429
Leu Ser Ser Arg Tyr
                330

AGACTTTTTC ACTCTTACCC TACCTGAATA TTCTACTTCT GCAACAGCTT TCTCTTCCGT       1489

GTAGGGTACT GGTTGAGATA TCCATTGTGT AAATTTAAGC CTATGATTTT TAATGAGAAA       1549

AAATGCCCAG TCTCTGTATT ATTTCCAATC TCATGCTACT TTTTTGGCCA TAAAATATGA       1609

ATCTATGTTA TAGGTTGTAG GCACTGTGGA TTTACAAAAA GAAAAGTCCT TATTAAAAGC       1669

TT                                                                      1671
```

FIG. 7A

```
ATG AAC TCC TCC TCC ACC CTG ACT GTA TTG AAT CTT ACC CTG AAC GCC          48
Met Asn Ser Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Val Leu Asn Leu Thr Leu Asn Ala
 1               5                  10                  15

TCA GAG GAT GGC ATT TTA GGA TCA AAT GTC AAG AAC AAG TCT TTG GCC          96
Ser Glu Asp Gly Ile Leu Gly Ser Asn Val Lys Asn Lys Ser Leu Ala
                20                  25                  30

TGT GAA GAA ATG GGC ATT GCC GTG GAG GTG TTC CTG ACC CTG GGT CTC        144
Cys Glu Glu Met Gly Ile Ala Val Glu Val Phe Leu Thr Leu Gly Leu
                35                  40                  45

GTC AGC CTC TTA GAG AAC ATC CTG GTC ATT GGG GCC ATA GTA AAG AAC        192
Val Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Gly Ala Ile Val Lys Asn
         50                  55                  60

AAA AAC CTG CAC TCA CCC ATG TAC TTC TTT GTG GGC AGC TTA GCC GTG        240
Lys Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Val Gly Ser Leu Ala Val
 65                  70                  75                  80

GCC GAC ATG CTG GTG AGC ATG TCC AAT GCC TGG GAG ACT GTC ACC ATA        288
Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Met Ser Asn Ala Trp Glu Thr Val Thr Ile
                85                  90                  95

TAC TTG CTA AAT AAT AAA CAC CTG GTG ATA GCC GAC ACC TTT GTG CGA        336
Tyr Leu Leu Asn Asn Lys His Leu Val Ile Ala Asp Thr Phe Val Arg
                100                 105                 110

CAC ATC GAC AAC GTG TTC GAC TCC ATG ATC TGC ATC TCT GTG GTG GCC        384
His Ile Asp Asn Val Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Val Val Ala
         115                 120                 125

TCG ATG TGC AGT TTG CTG GCC ATT GCG GTG GAT AGG TAC ATC ACC ATC        432
Ser Met Cys Ser Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile
         130                 135                 140

TTC TAT GCC TTG CGC TAC CAC CAC ATC ATG ACC GCG AGG CGC TCG GGG        480
Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His His Ile Met Thr Ala Arg Arg Ser Gly
145                 150                 155                 160

GTG ATC ATC GCC TGC ATT TGG ACC TTC TGC ATA AGC TGC GGC ATT GTT        528
Val Ile Ile Ala Cys Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Ile Ser Cys Gly Ile Val
                165                 170                 175

TTC ATC ATC TAC TAT GAG TCC AAG TAT GTG ATC ATT TGC CTC ATC TCC        576
Phe Ile Ile Tyr Tyr Glu Ser Lys Tyr Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Ser
                180                 185                 190

ATG TTC TTC ACC ATG CTG TTC TTC ATG GTG TCT CTG TAT ATA CAC ATG        624
Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Phe Phe Met Val Ser Leu Tyr Ile His Met
         195                 200                 205

TTC CTC CTG GCC CGG AAC CAT GTC AAG CGG ATA GCA GCT TCC CCC AGA        672
Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Asn His Val Lys Arg Ile Ala Ala Ser Pro Arg
         210                 215                 220

TAC AAC TCC GTG AGG CAA AGG ACC AGC ATG AAG GGG GCT ATT ACC CTC        720
Tyr Asn Ser Val Arg Gln Arg Thr Ser Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu
225                 230                 235                 240
```

FIG. 7B

```
ACC ATG CTA CTG GGG ATT TTC ATT GTC TGC TGG TCT CCC TTC TTT CTT          768
Thr Met Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Ile Val Cys Trp Ser Pro Phe Phe Leu
        245             250                 255

CAC CTT ATC TTA ATG ATC TCC TGC CCT CAG AAC GTC TAC TGC TCT TGC          816
His Leu Ile Leu Met Ile Ser Cys Pro Gln Asn Val Tyr Cys Ser Cys
        260             265                 270

TTT ATG TCT TAC TTC AAC ATG TAC CTT ATA CTC ATC ATG TGC AAC TCC          864
Phe Met Ser Tyr Phe Asn Met Tyr Leu Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser
        275             280                 285

GTG ATC GAT CCT CTC ATC TAC GCC CTC CGC AGC CAA GAG ATG CGG AGG          912
Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu Arg Ser Gln Glu Met Arg Arg
        290             295                 300

ACC TTT AAG GAG ATC GTC TGT TGT CAC GGA TTC CGG CGA CCT TGT AGG          960
Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Val Cys Cys His Gly Phe Arg Arg Pro Cys Arg
305                 310                 315                 320

CTC CTT GGC GGG TAT TAA                                                  978
Leu Leu Gly Gly Tyr  *
                325
```

FIG. 8

FIG. 9

FIG. 10

FIG. 11A

FIG. 11B
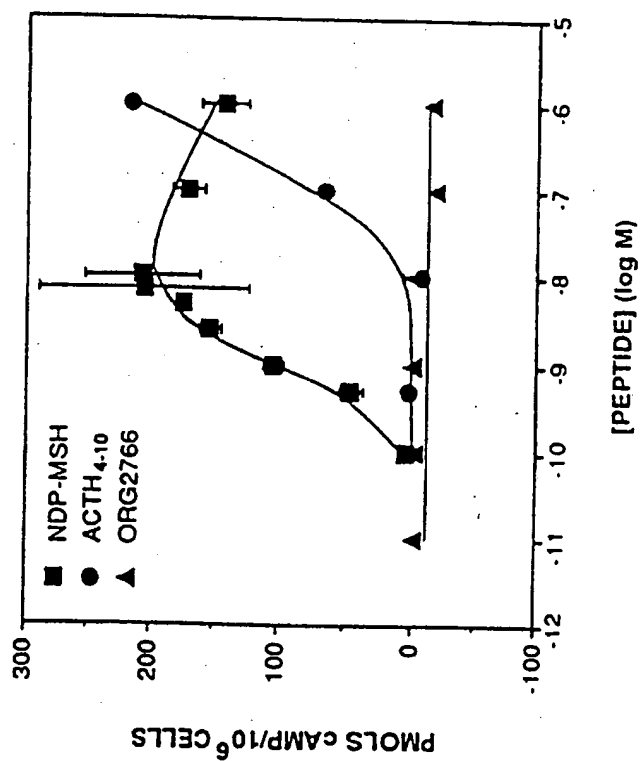
FIG. 11C

FIG. 12

FIG. 13

FIG. 14

FIG. 15A

hMC1-R

Log[compound] (M)

cAMP dependent
β - galactosidase activity
(OD$_{405}$)

FIG. 15B

hMC3-R

Log[Compound] (M)

cAMP dependent
β - galactosidase activity
(OD_{405})

FIG. 15C

FIG. 15D

cAMP dependent
β - galactosidase activity
(OD$_{405}$)

Log[Compound] (M)

mMC5-R

FIG. 15E

FIG. 15F

hMC3-R

FIG. 15G

cAMP dependent
β - galactosidase activity 0.50
(OD₄₀₅)

hMC4-R

Log[α - MSH] (M)

FIG. 15H

hMC3-R

Log[α - MSH] (M)

cAMP dependent
β - galactosidase activity
(OD$_{405}$)
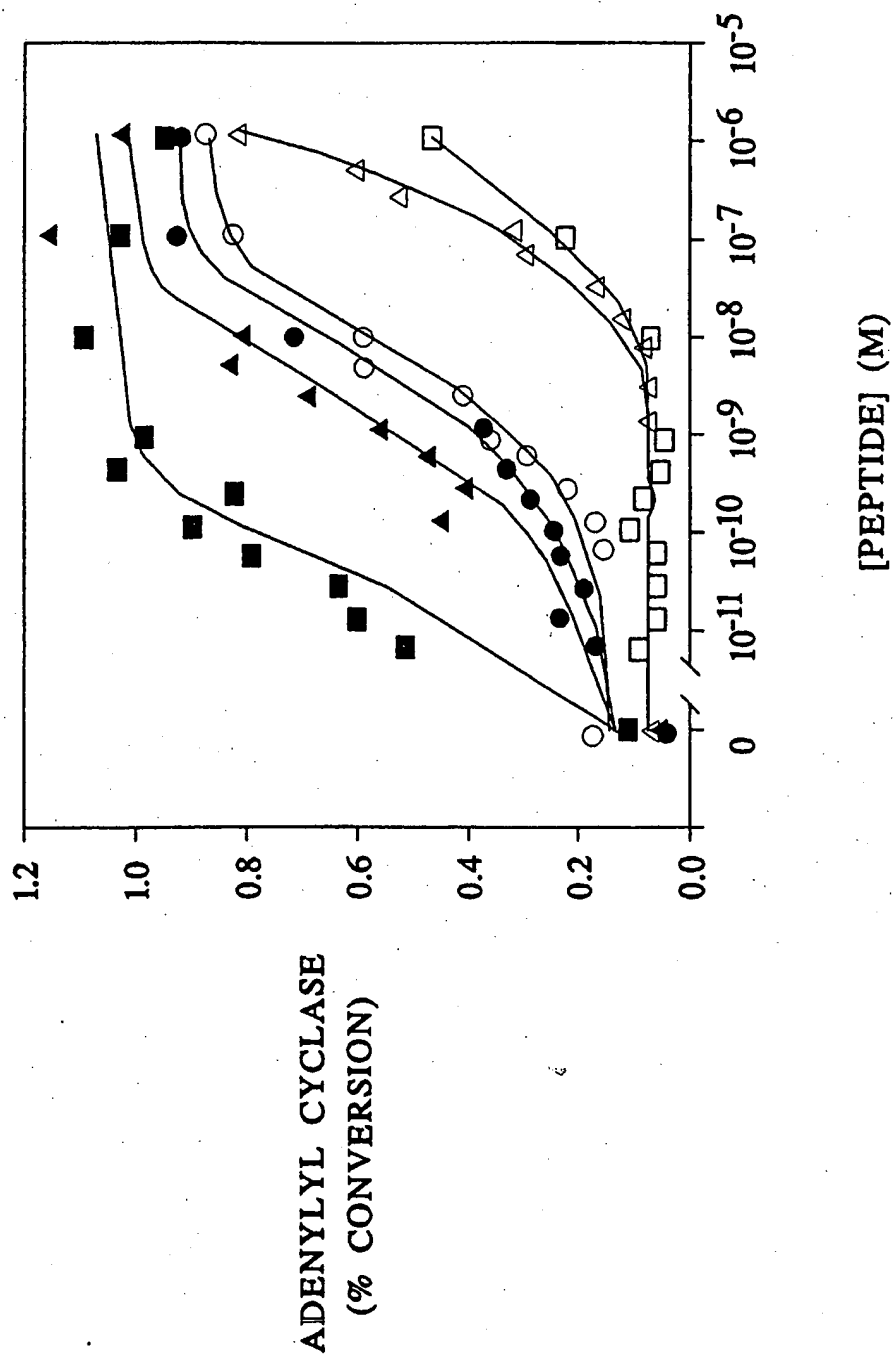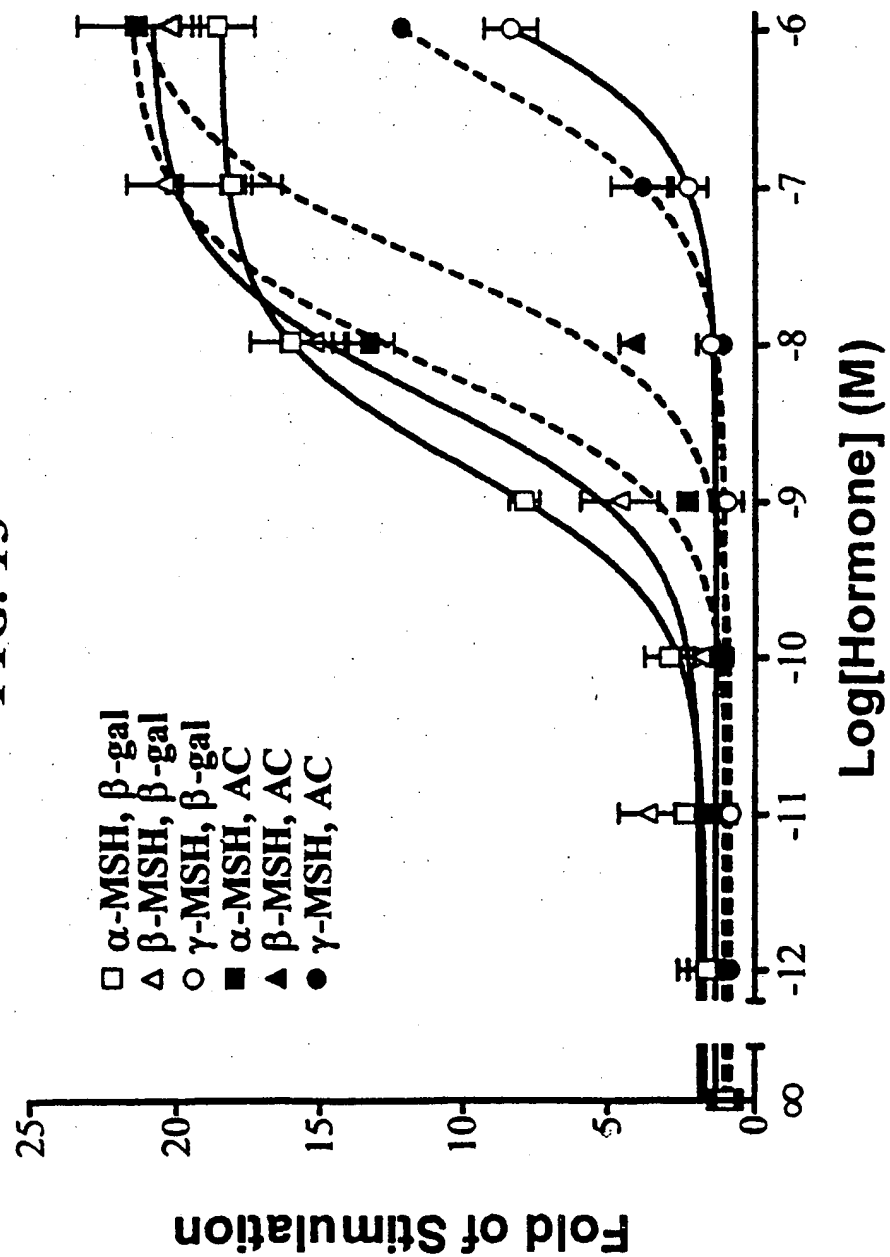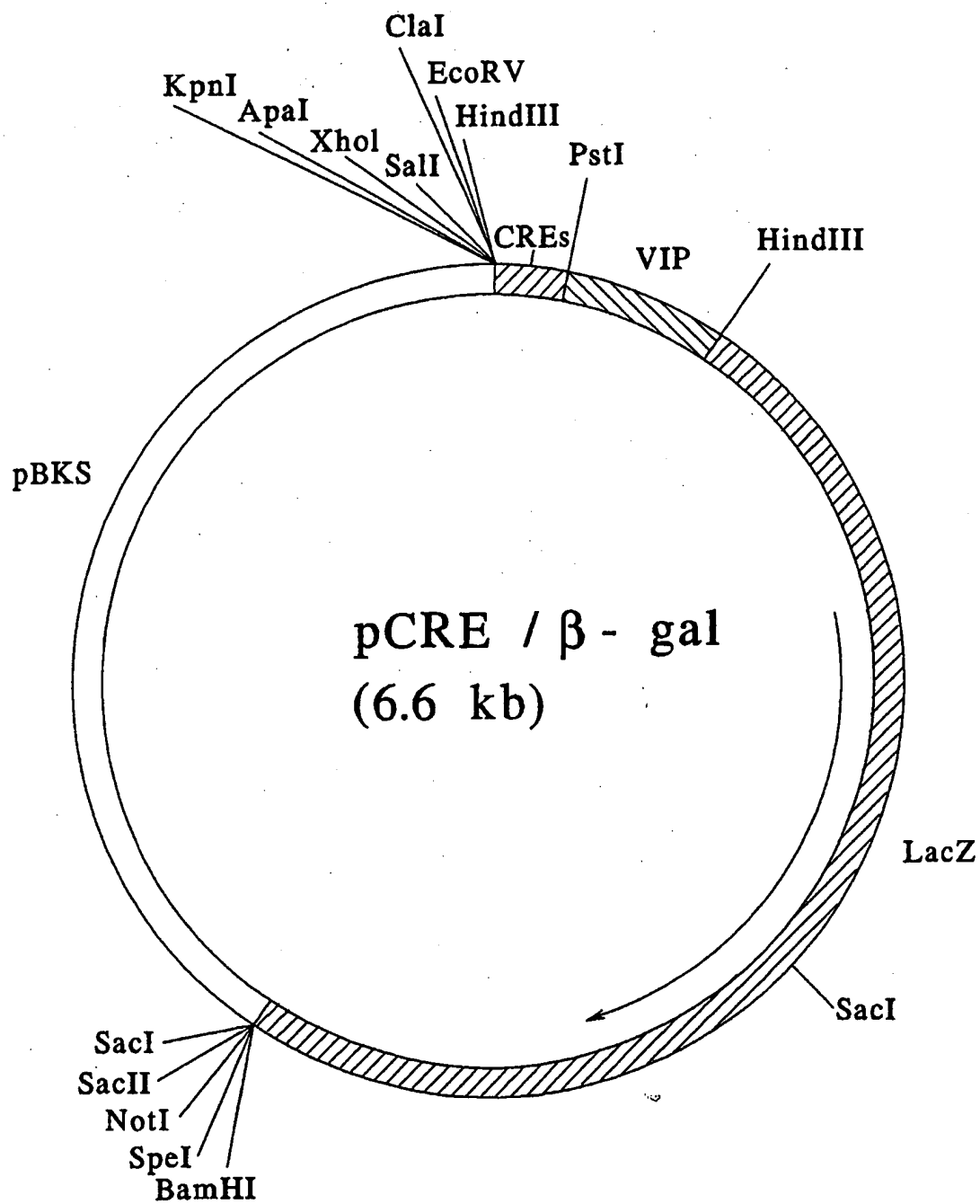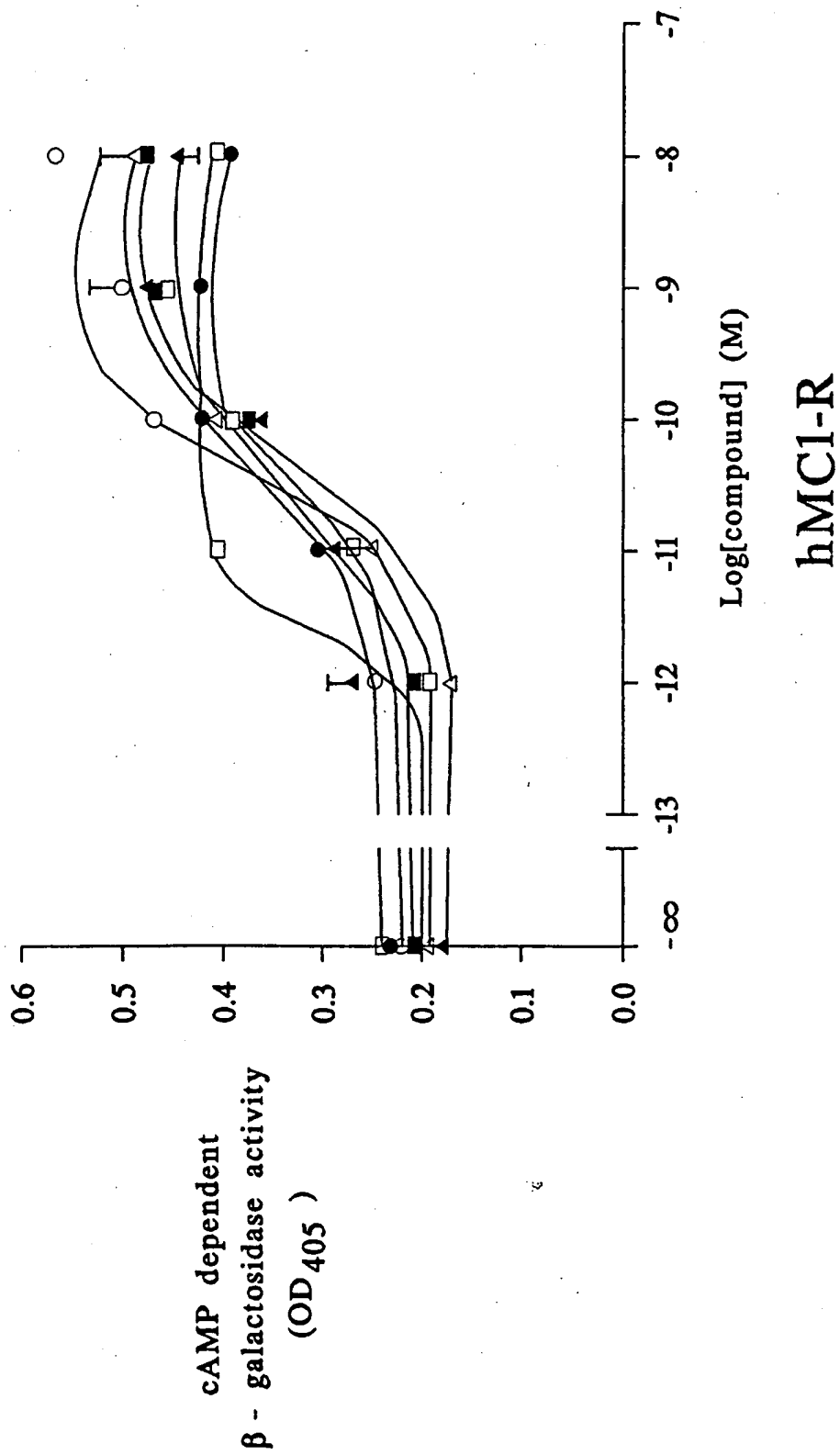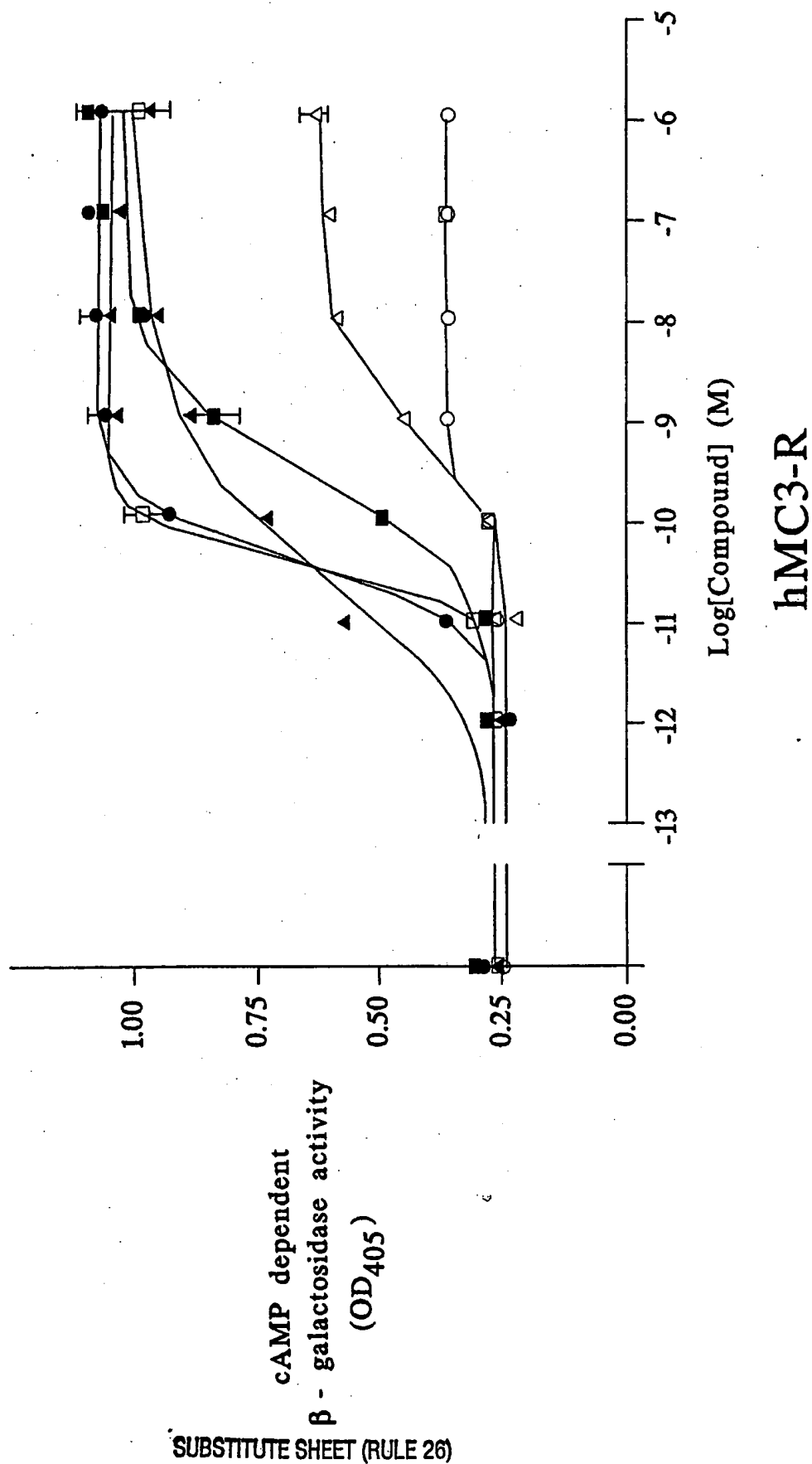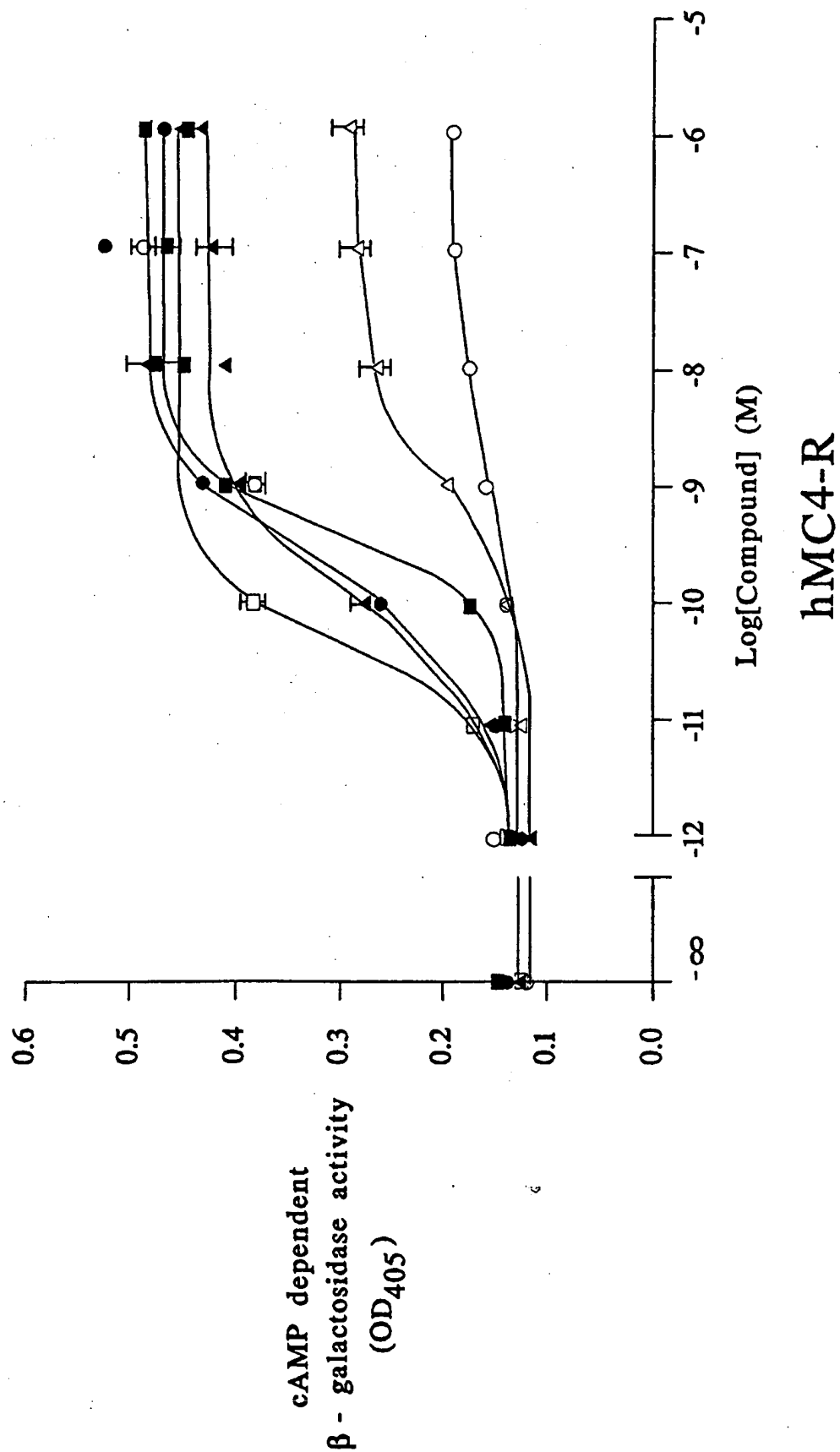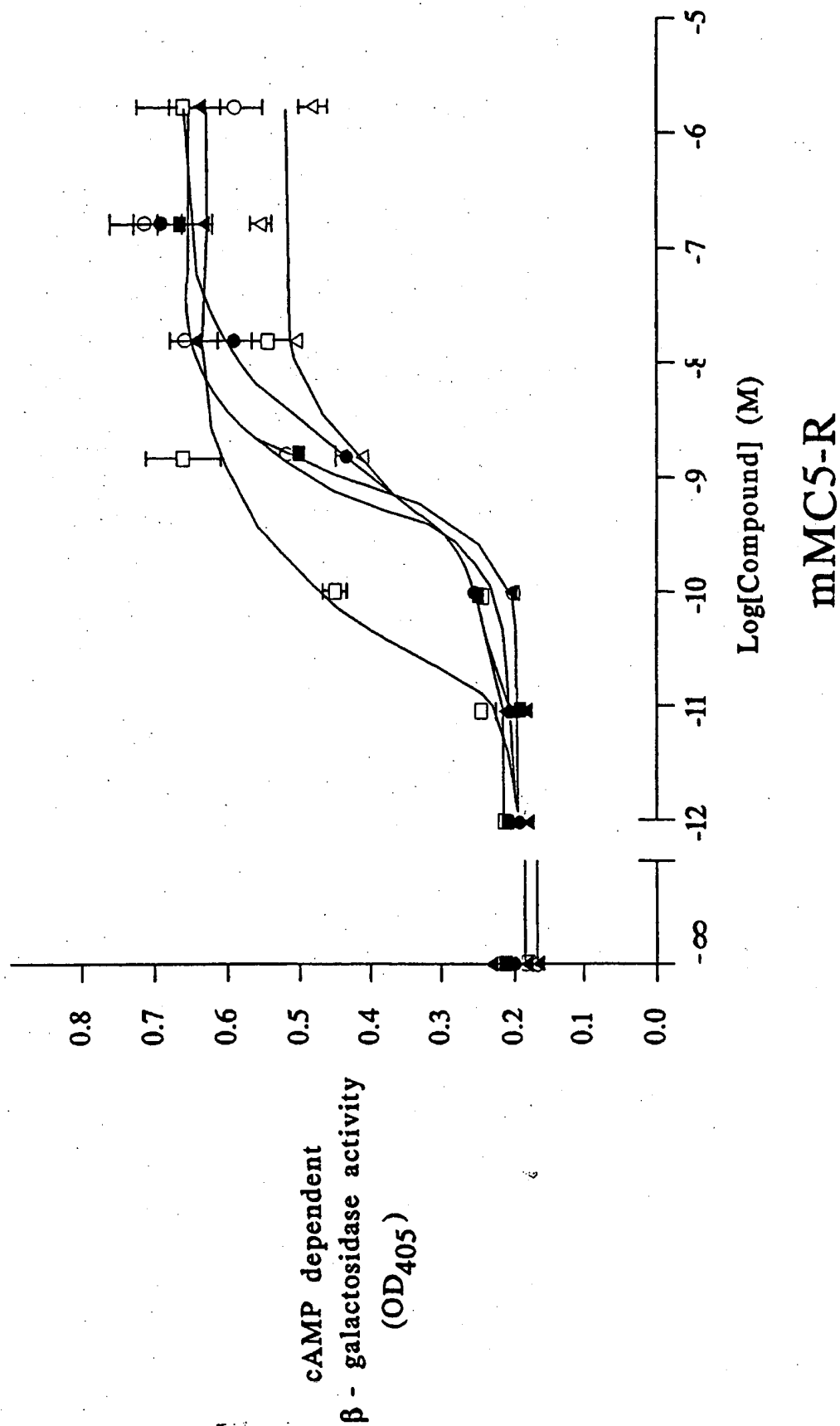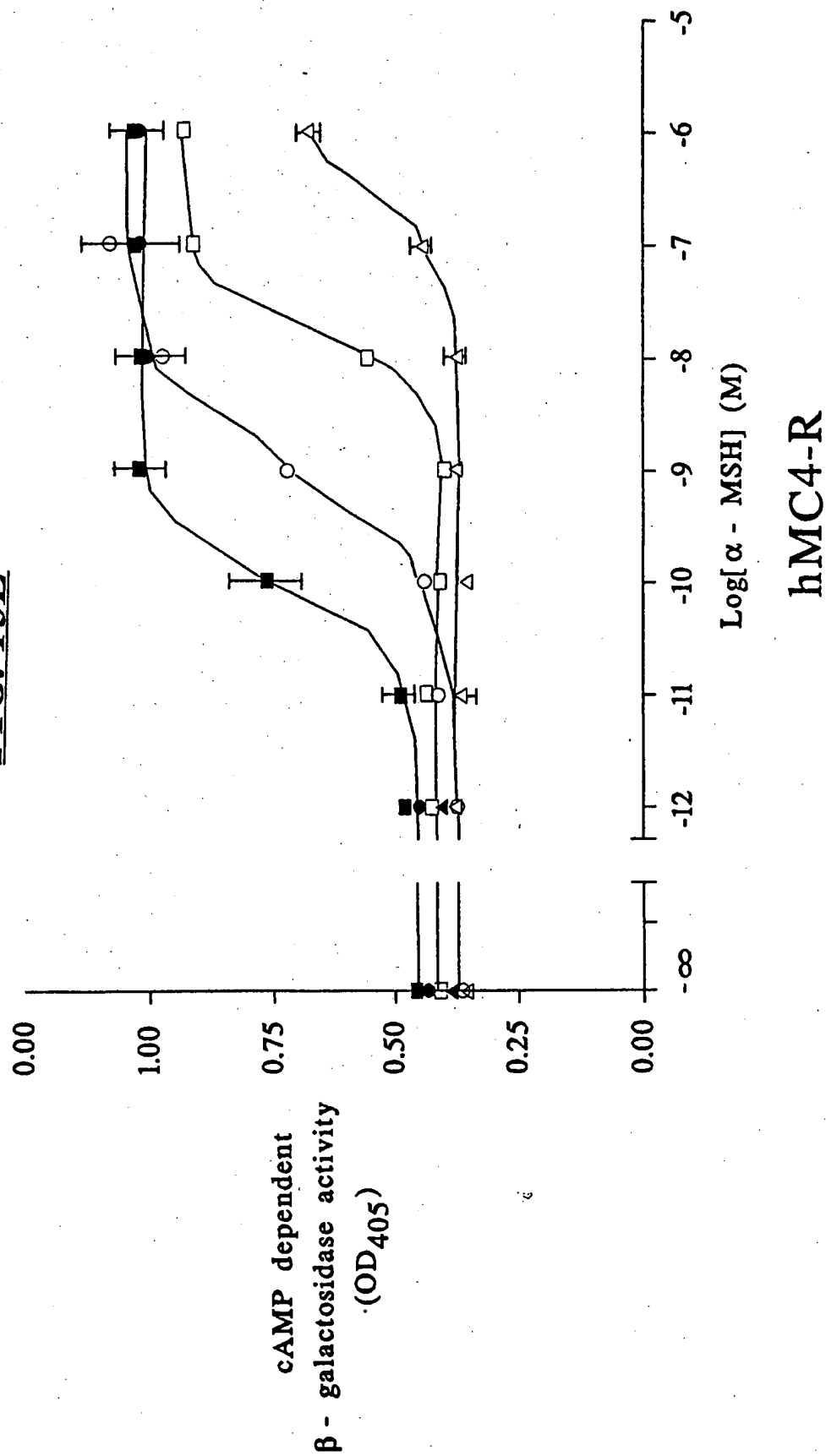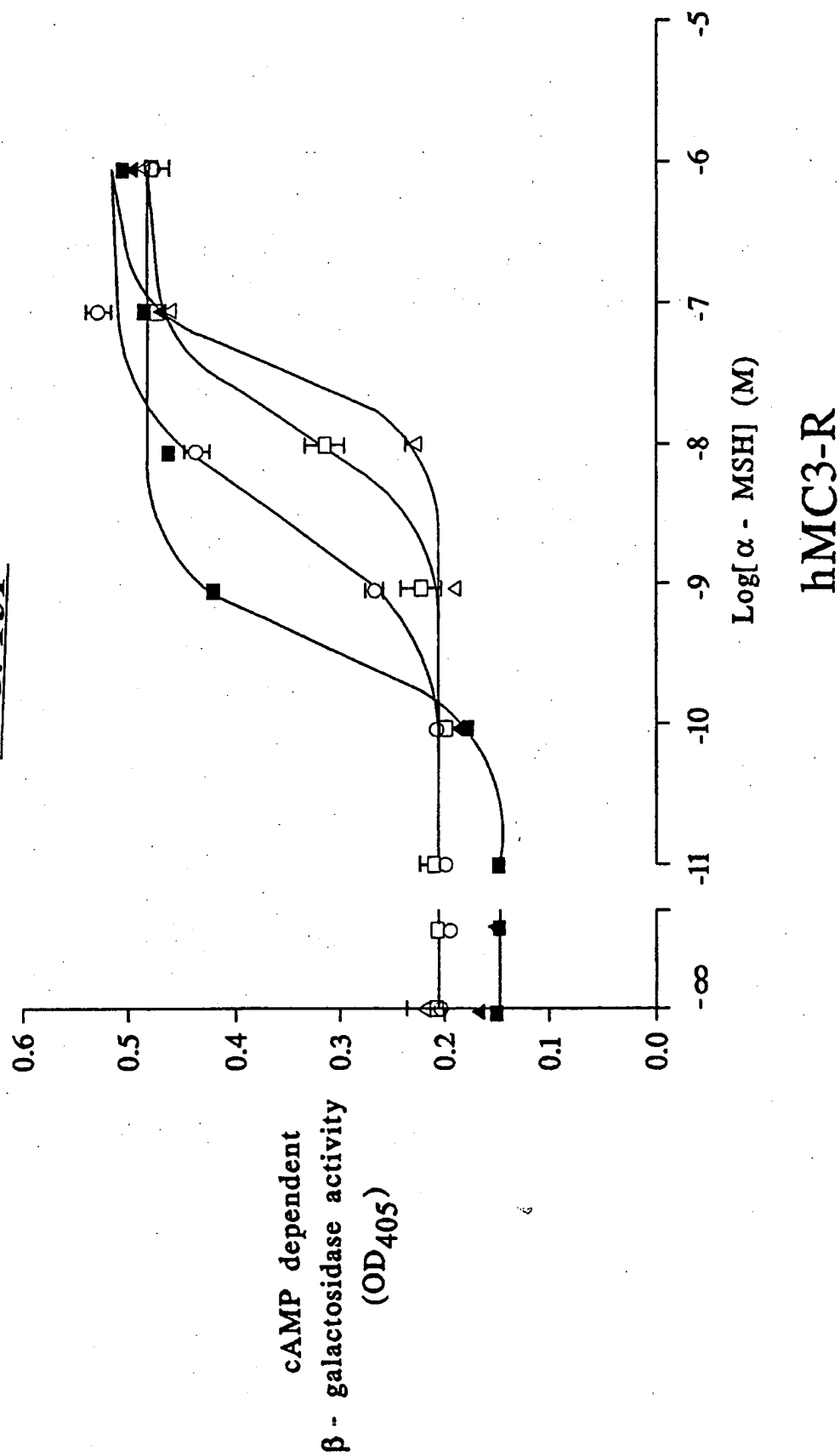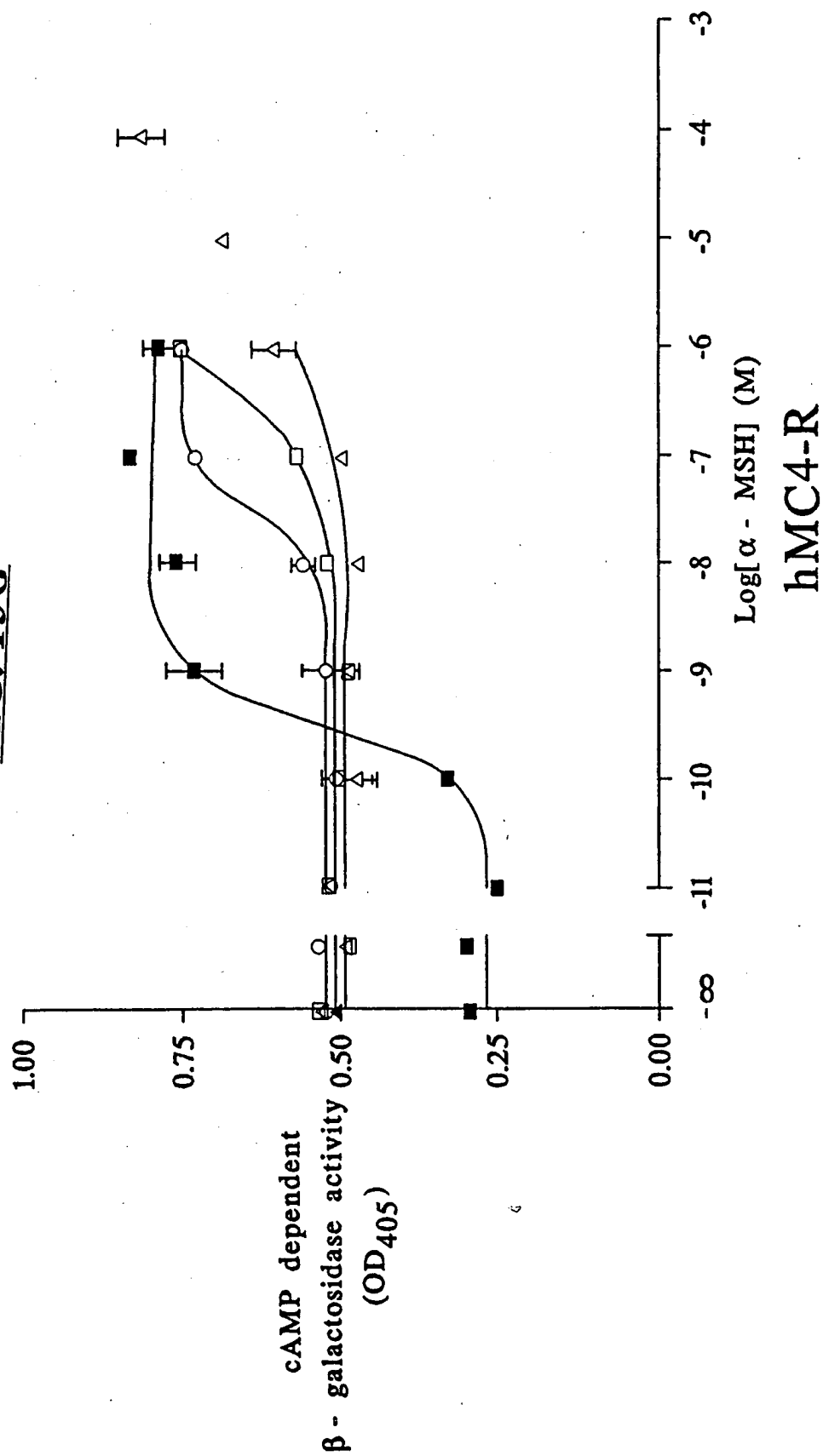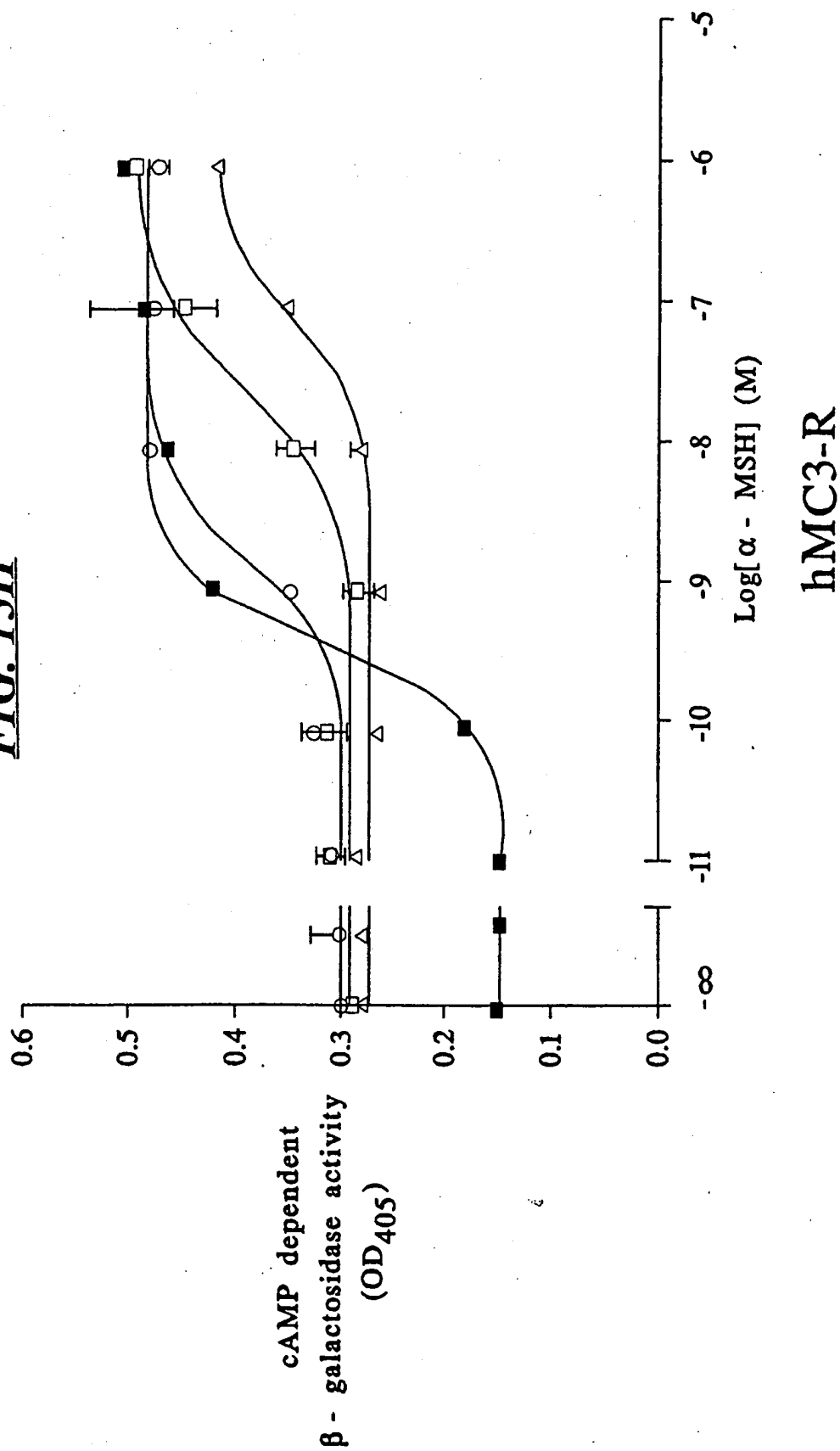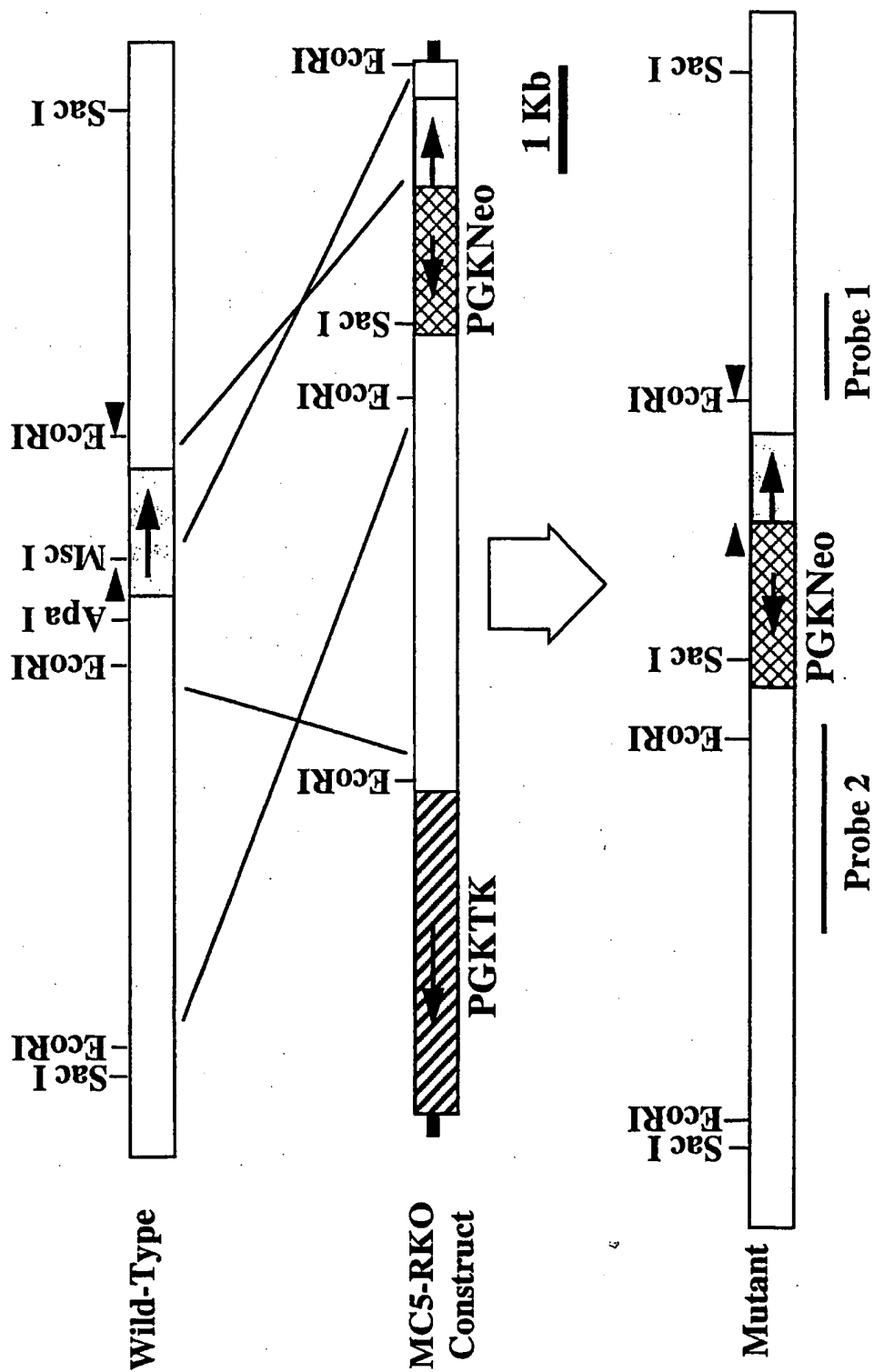
FIG. 16
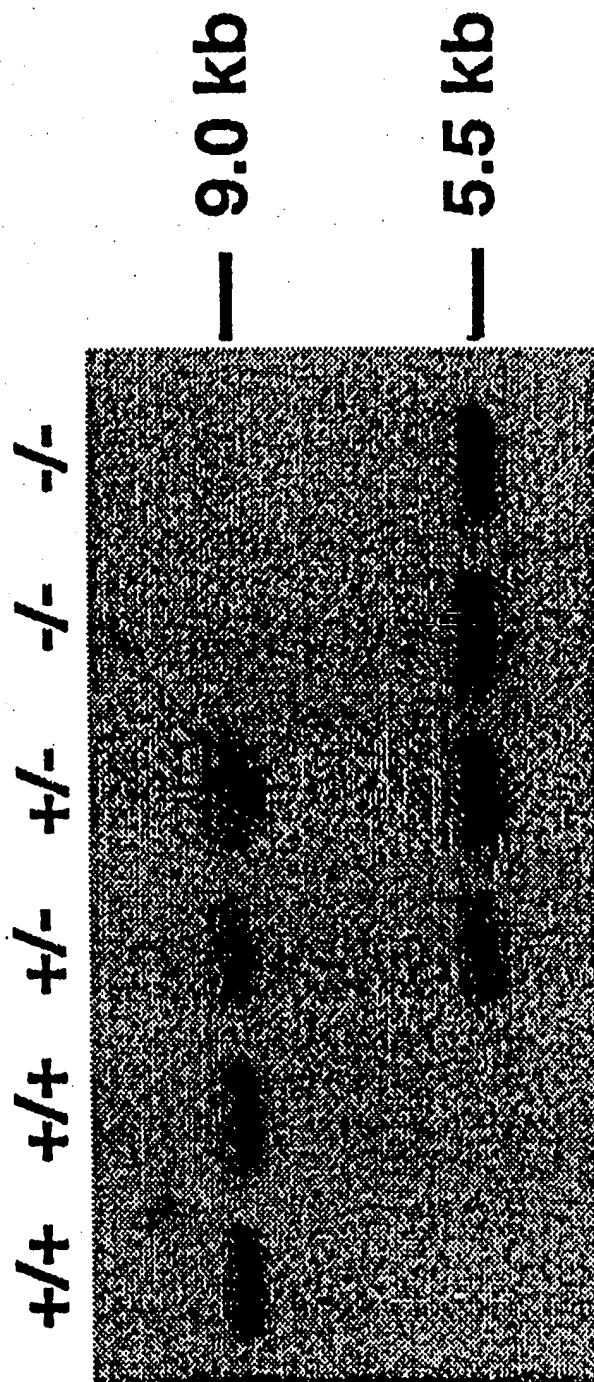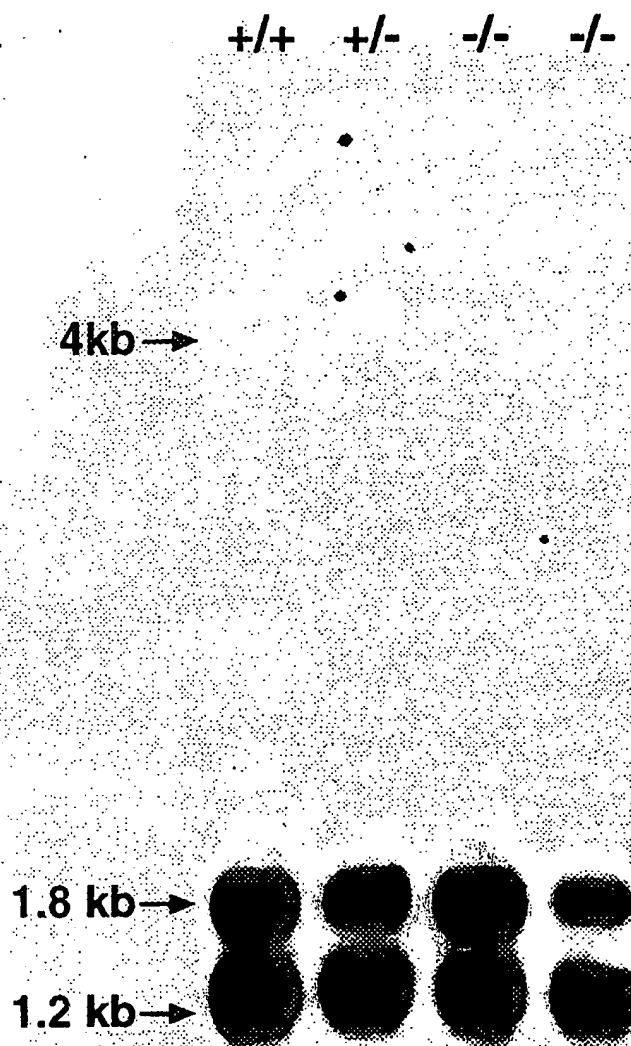
FIG. 17A

FIG. 17B

FIG. 17C
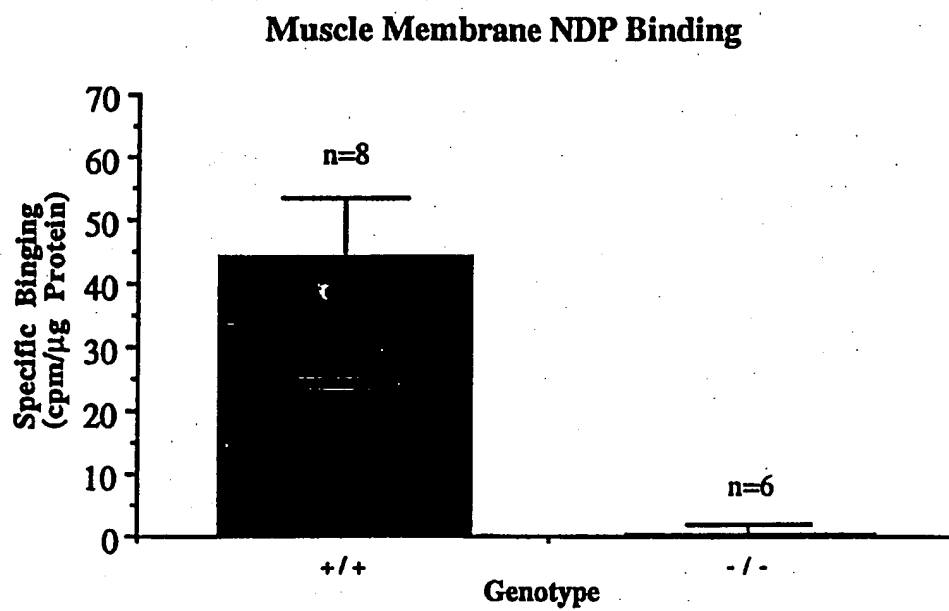
FIG. 17D

FIG. 18A
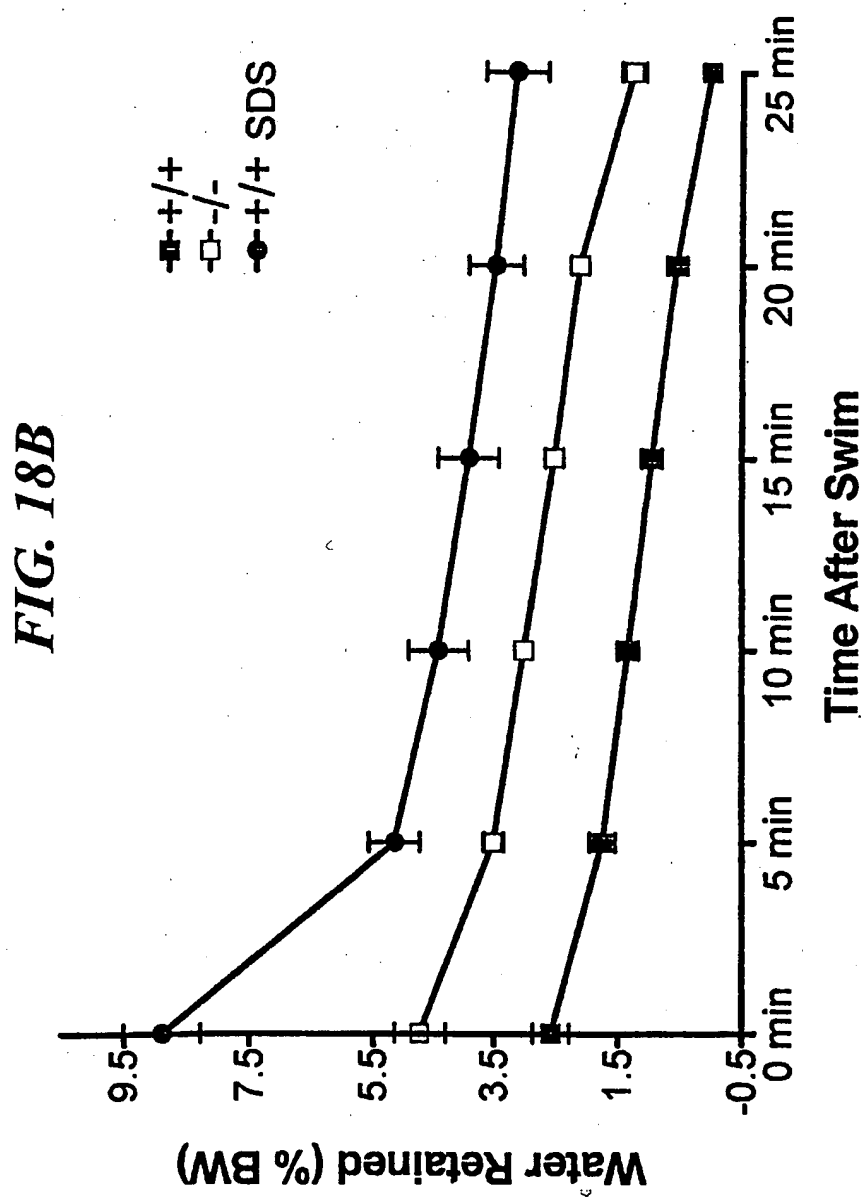
FIG. 18B
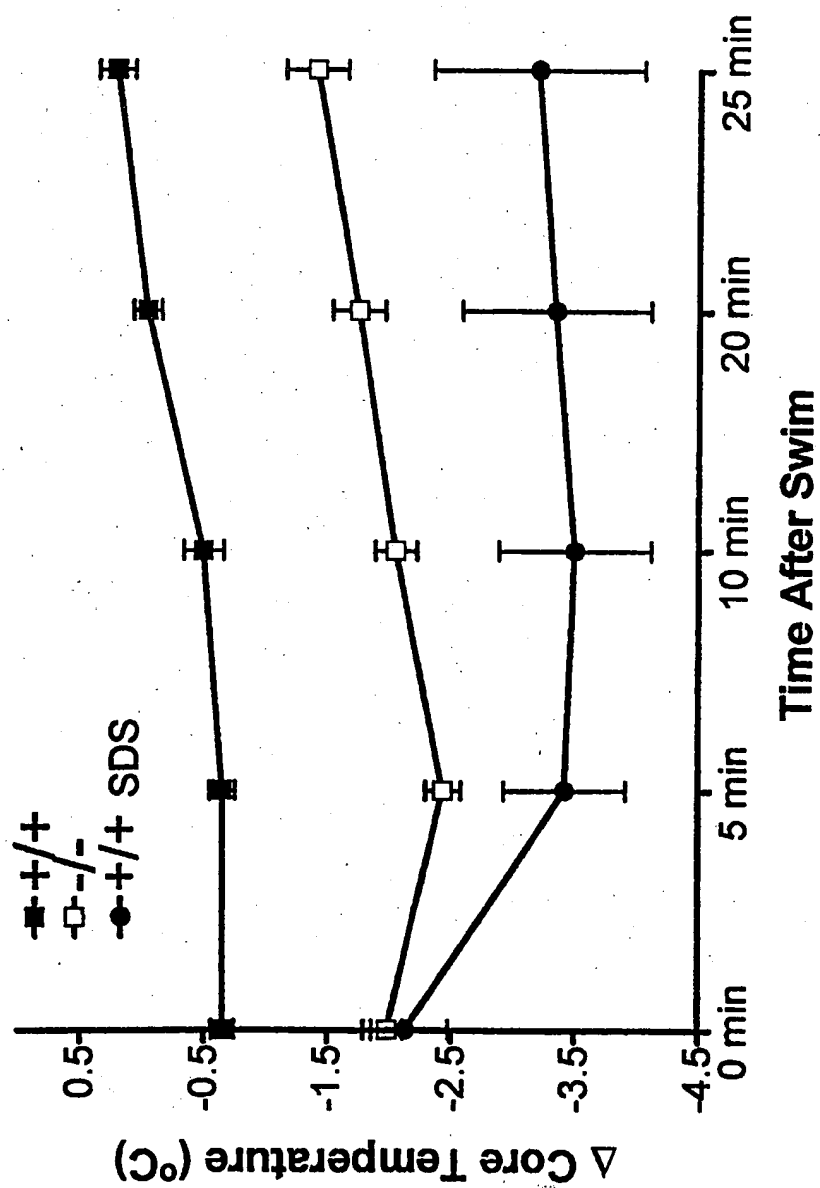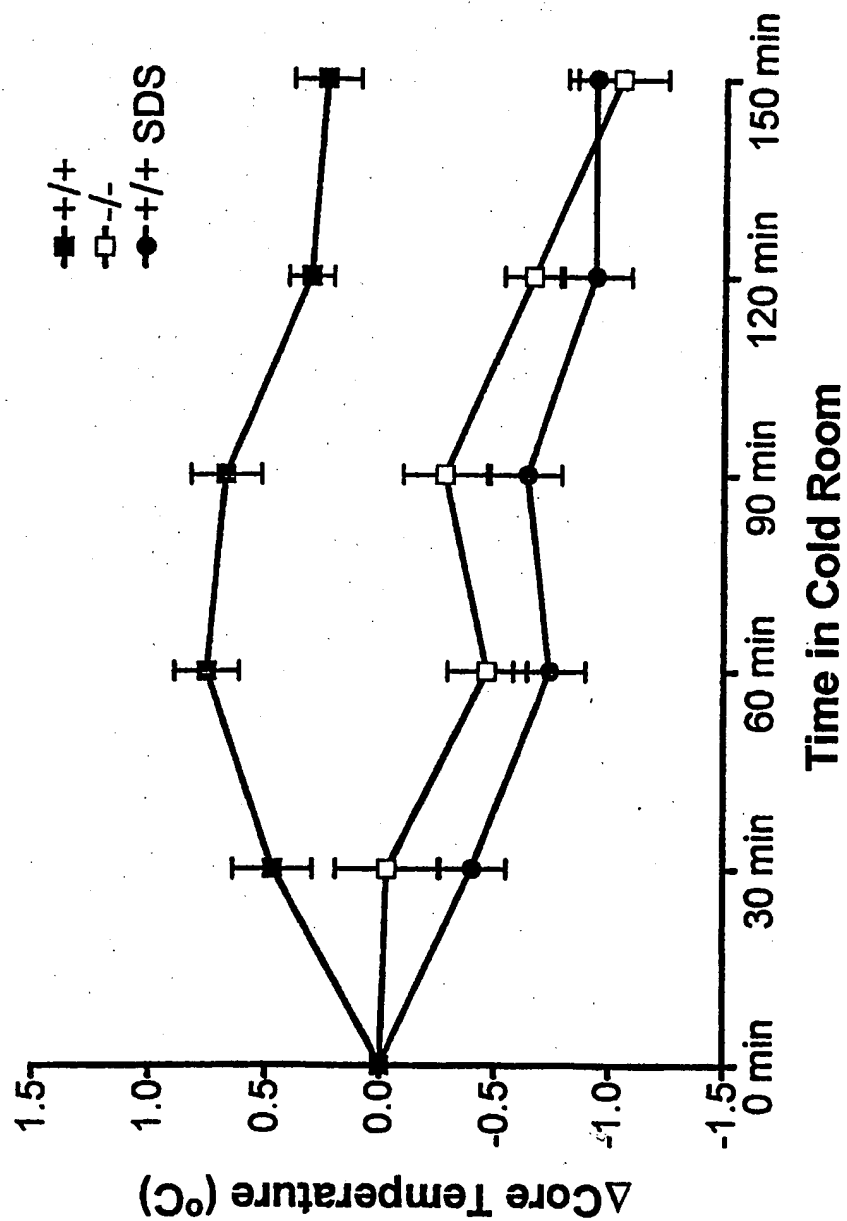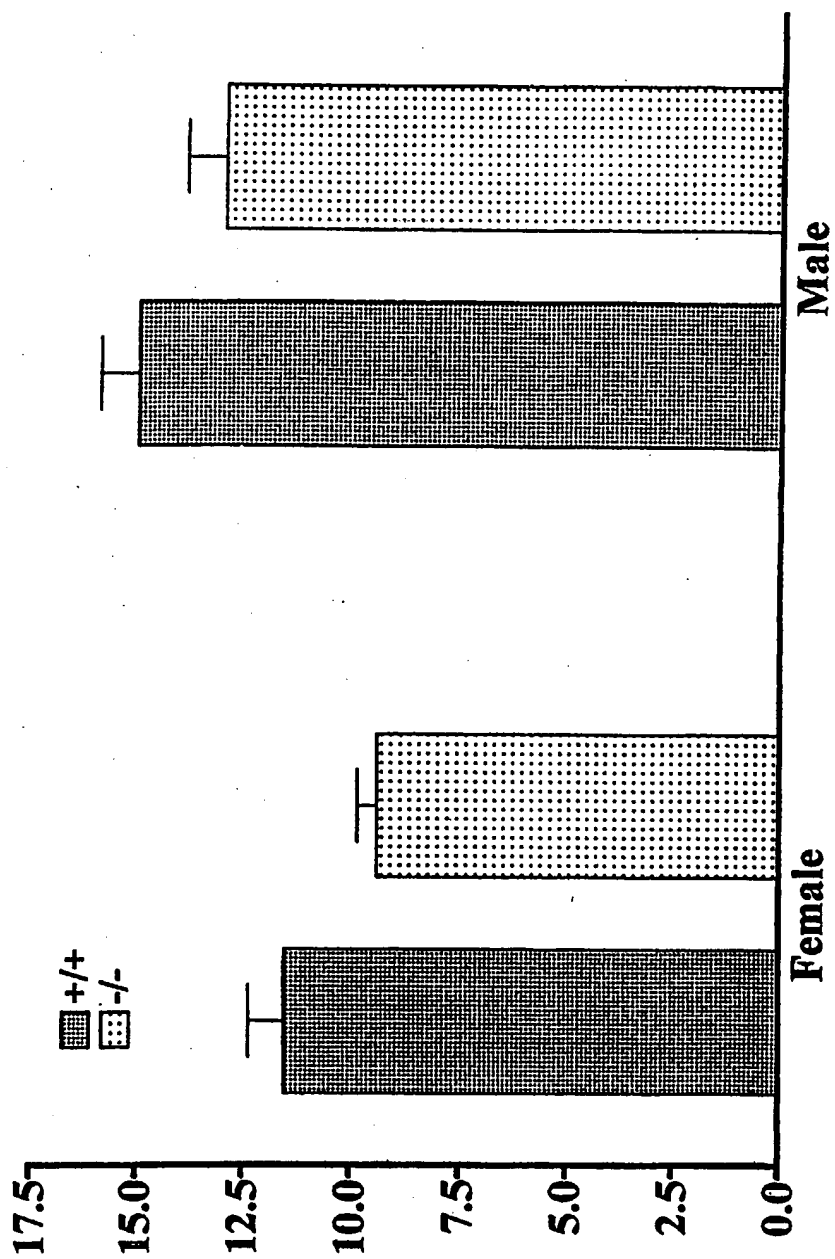
FIG. 18C

FIG. 18D

FIG. 18E

Hair Lipids 4 days after shampoo

+/+   +/+   +/+   -/-   -/-   -/-
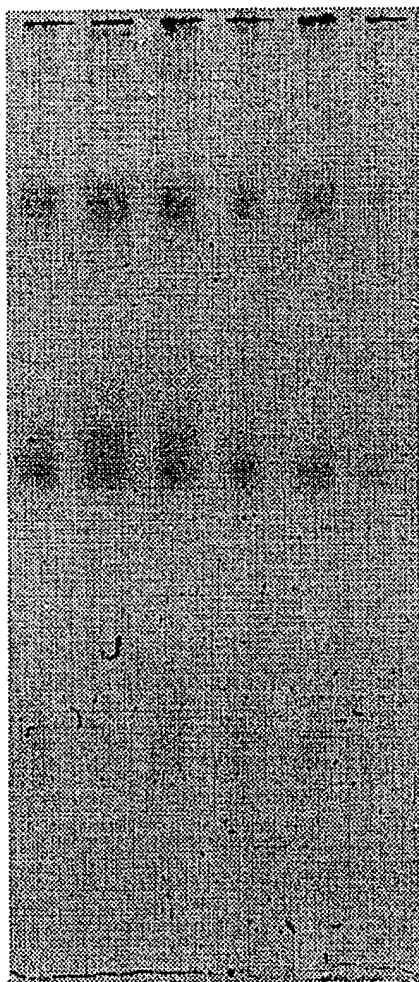
FIG. 18F

FIG. 19A
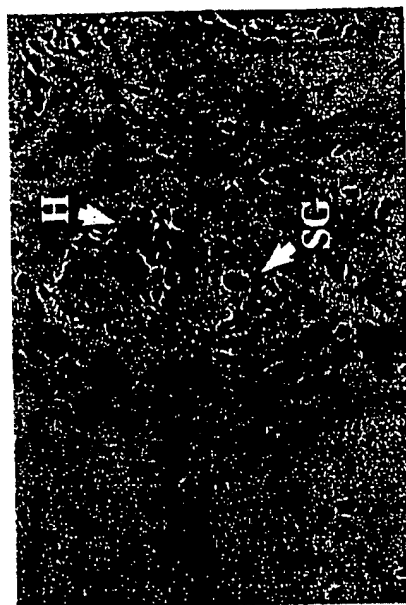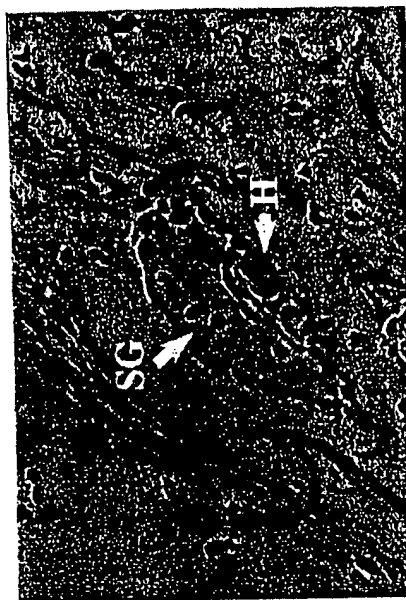
FIG. 19B

MC5-R Expression in Mouse Tissues
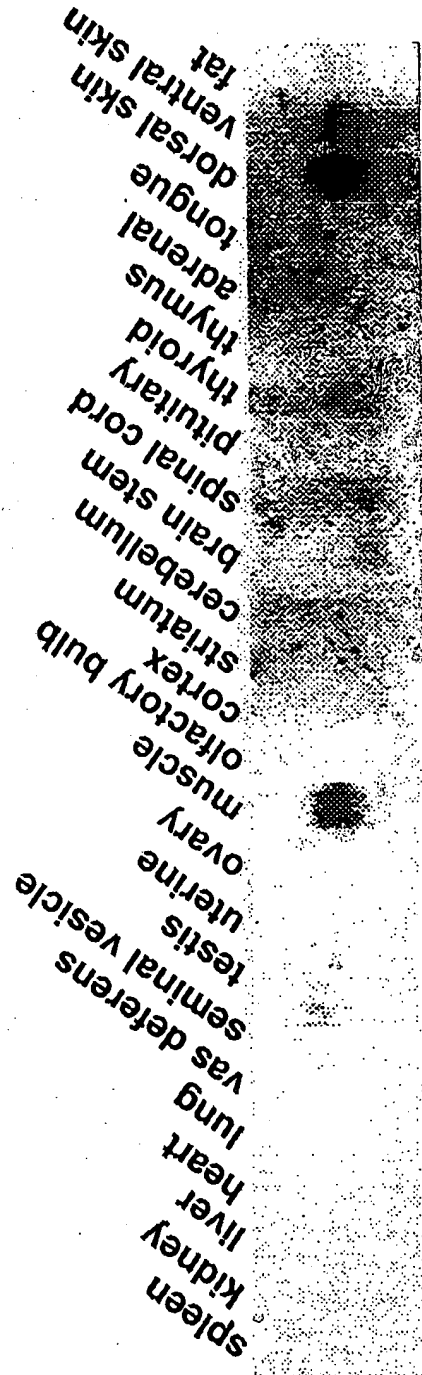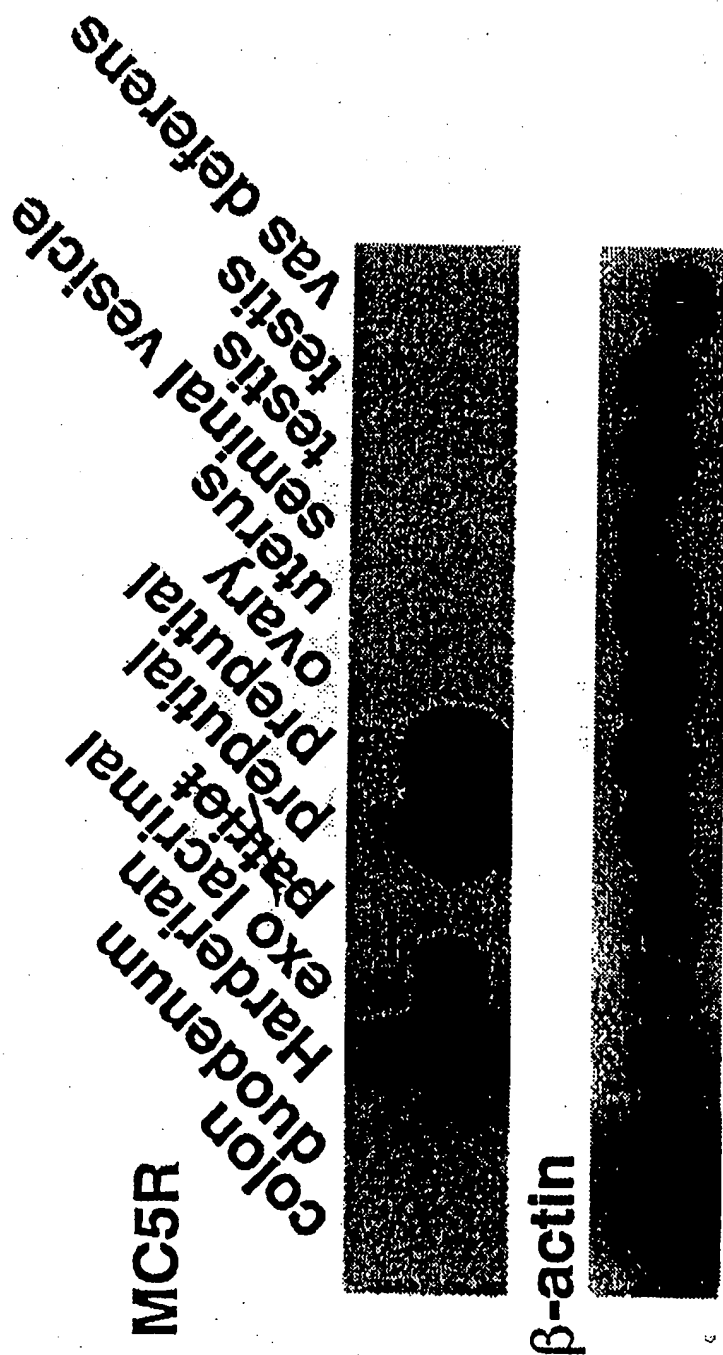
FIG. 19C

MC5-R coding
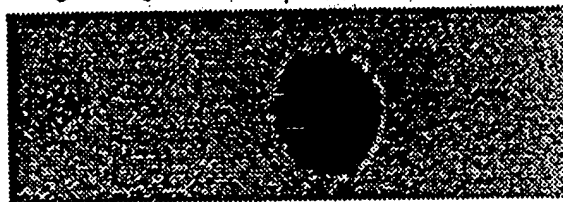
18S rRNA

FIG. 19D

MC5R
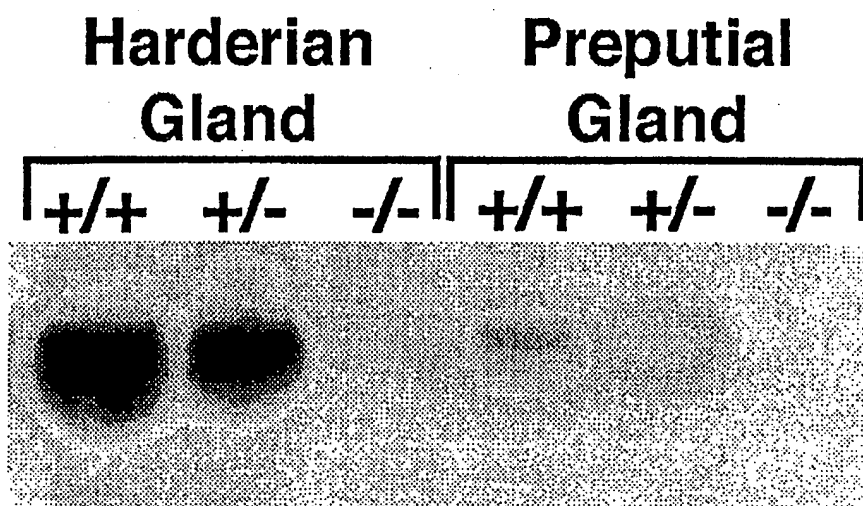
FIG. 19E
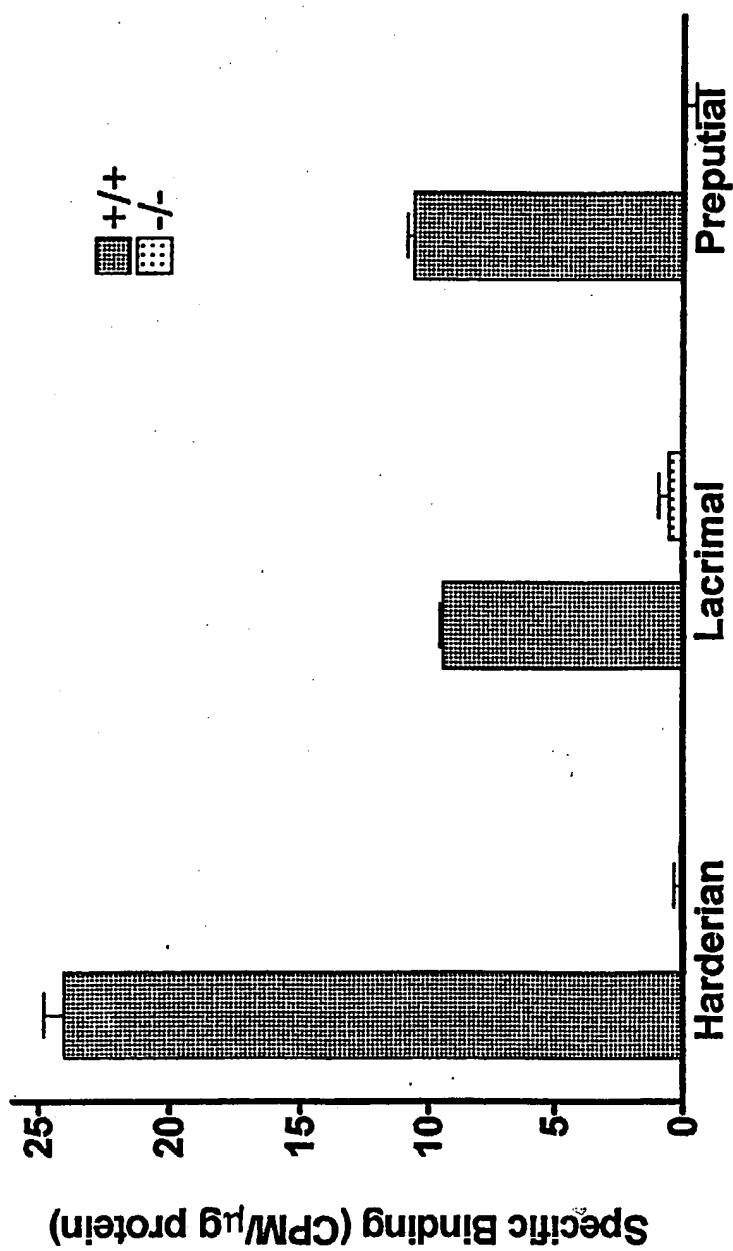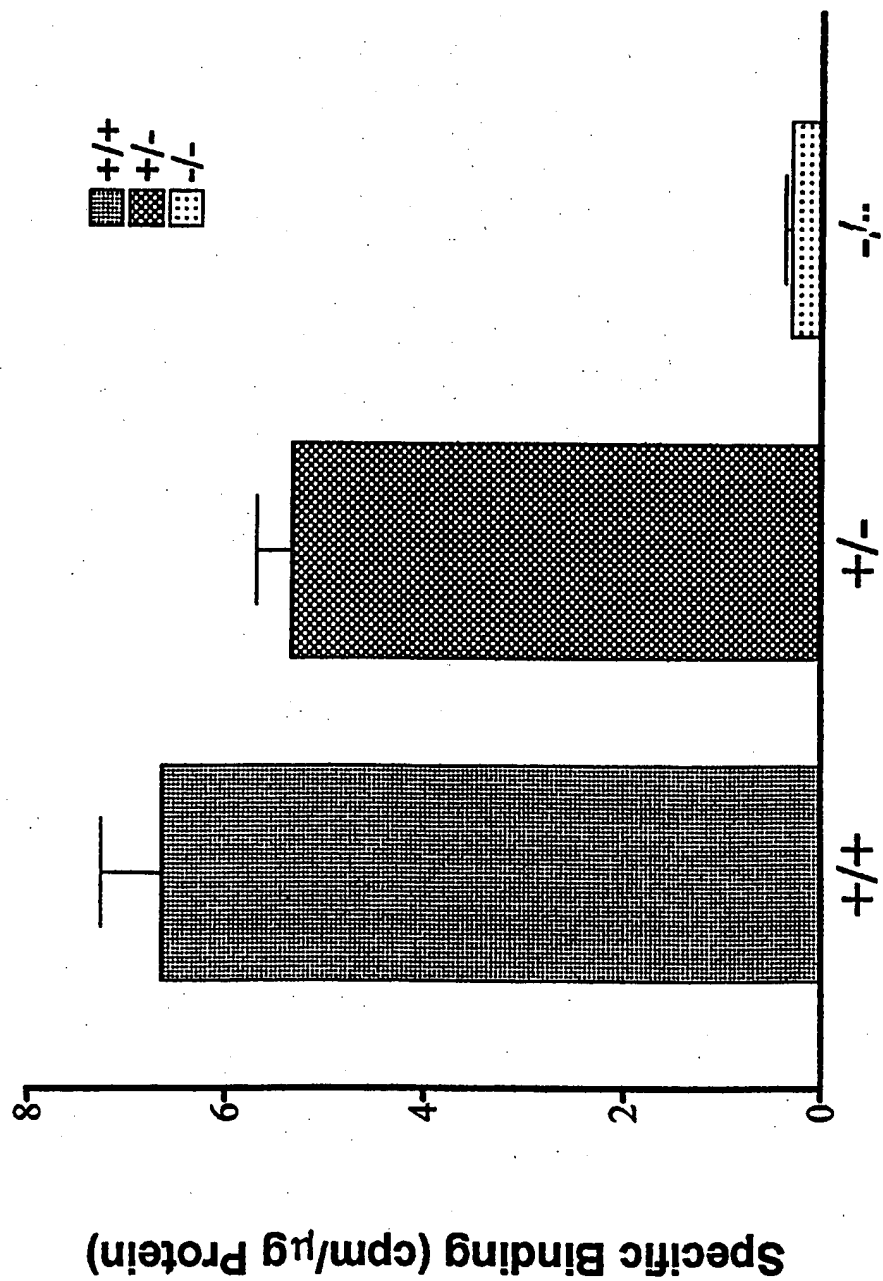
FIG. 20A

FIG. 20B

cAMP Production in Preputial Gland
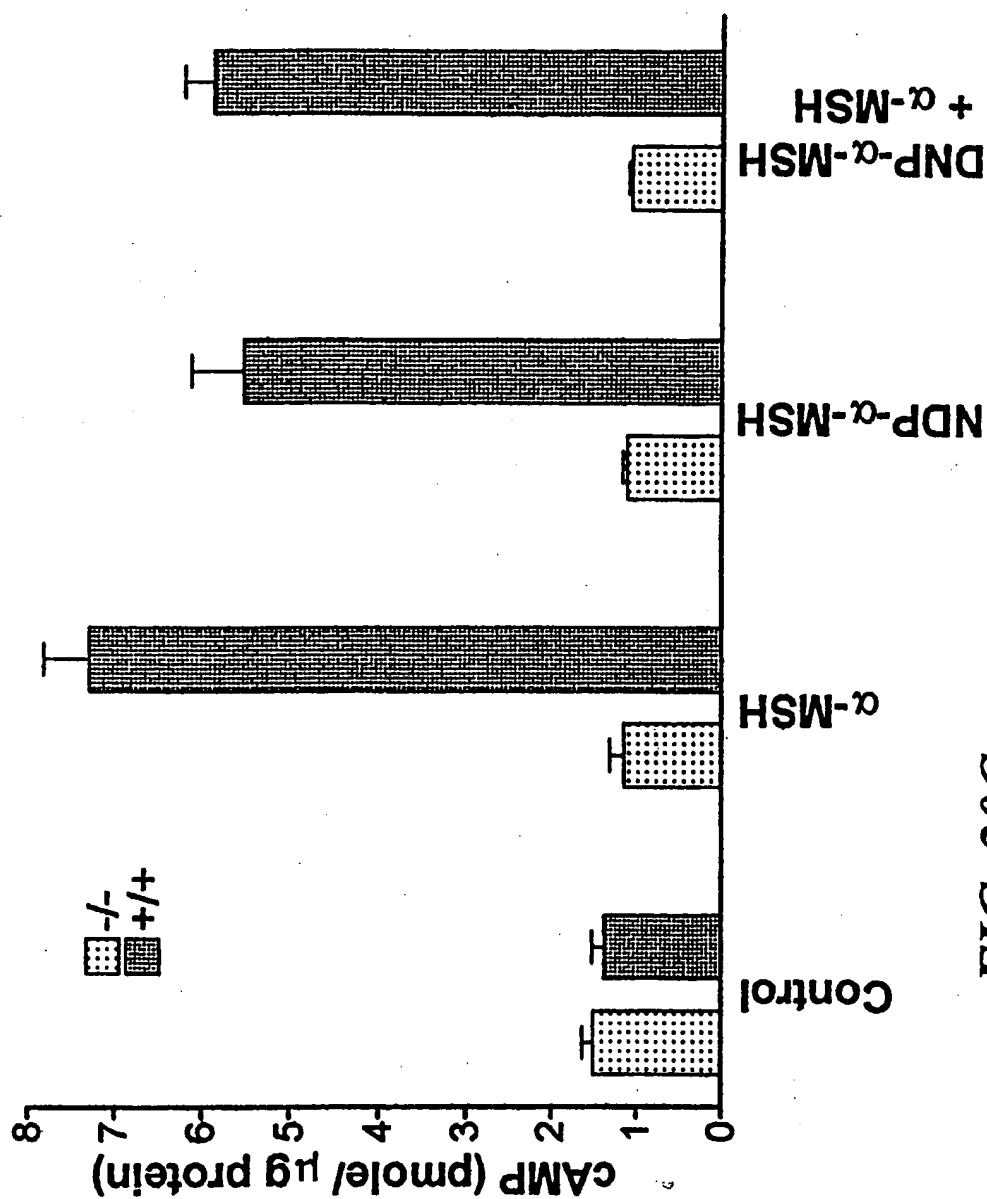
FIG. 20C

FIG. 20D

cAMP Production in the Harderian Gland
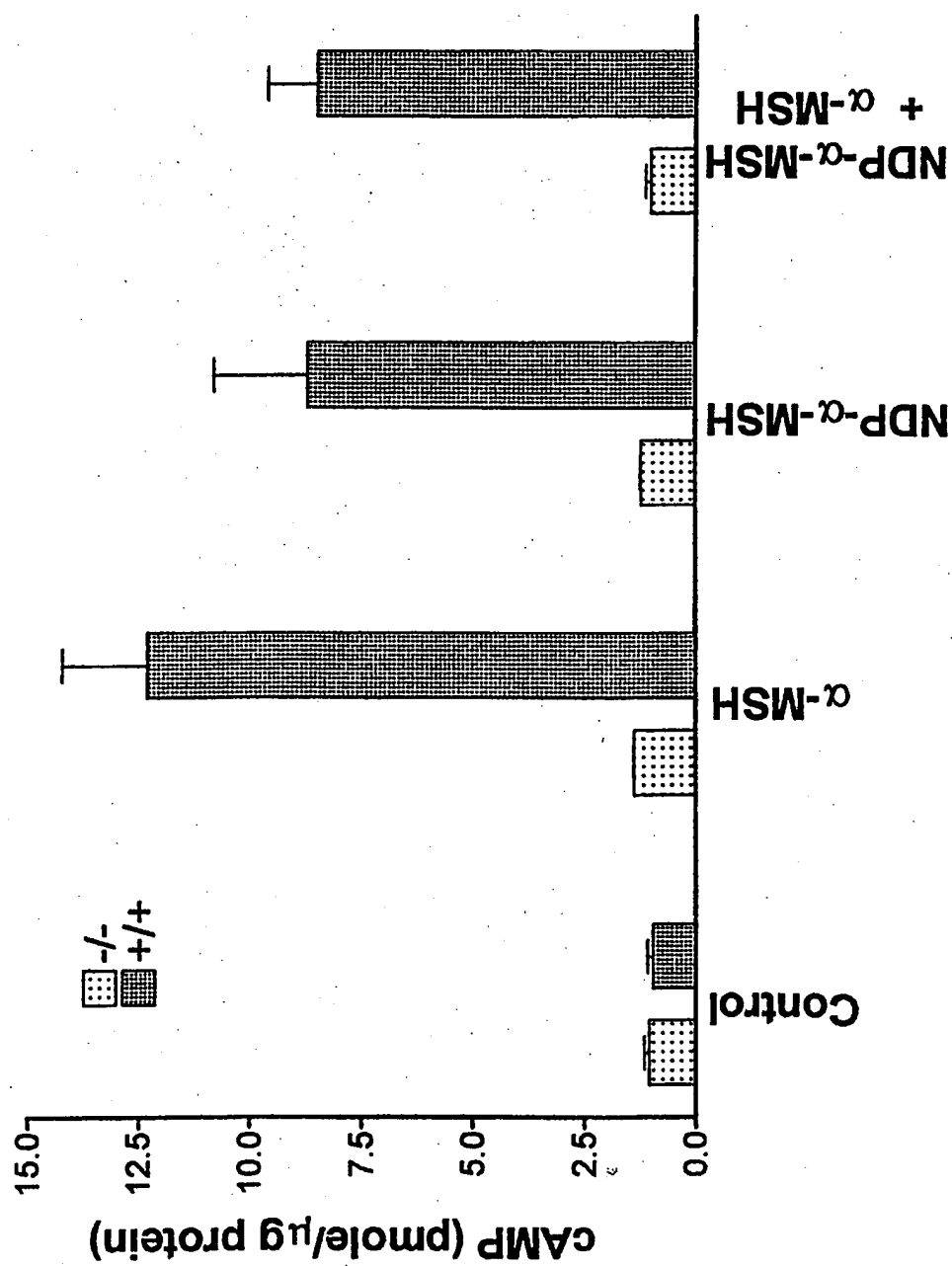
FIG. 21A

Dose Response of ACTH-stimulated Protein Secretion
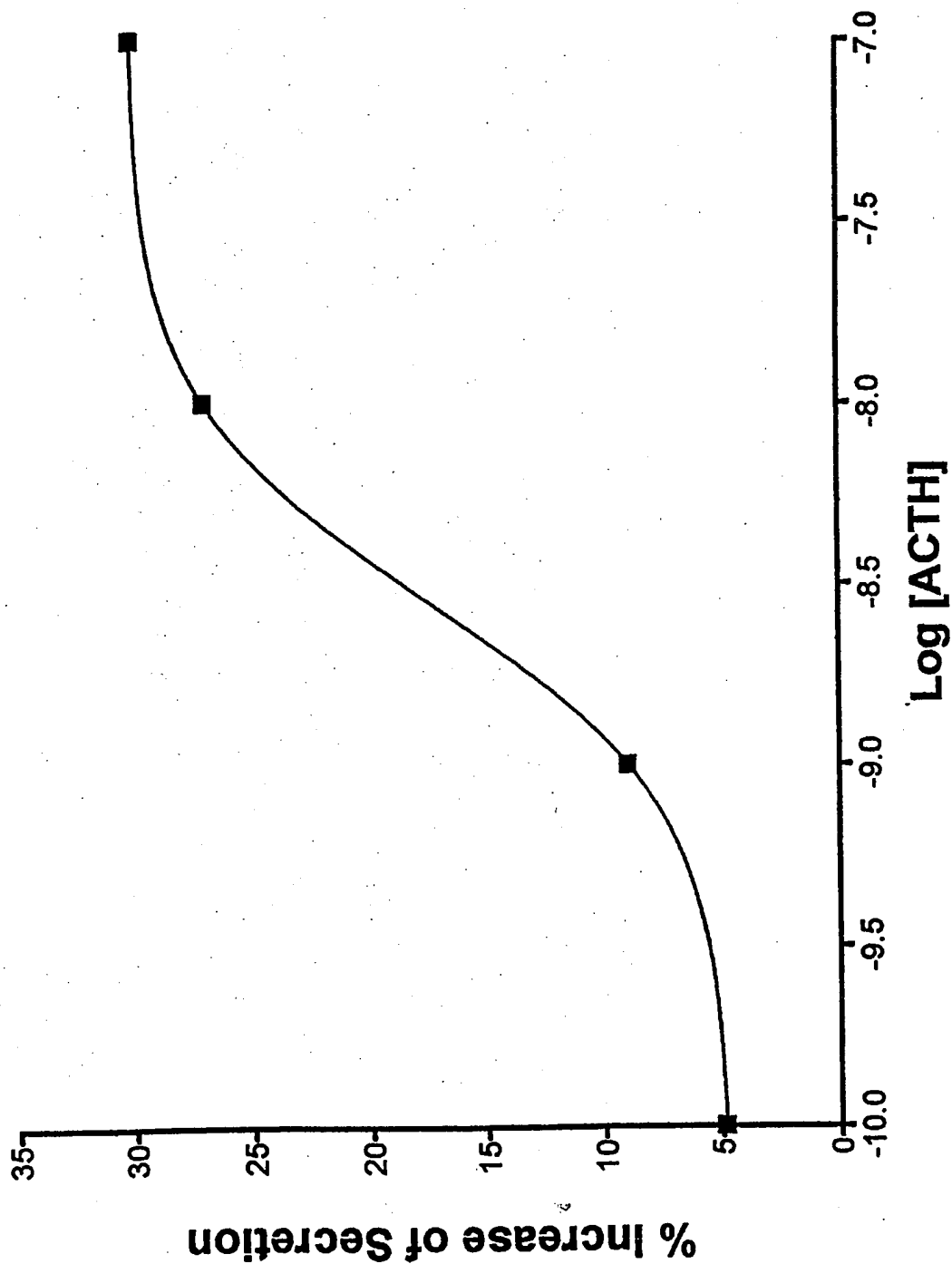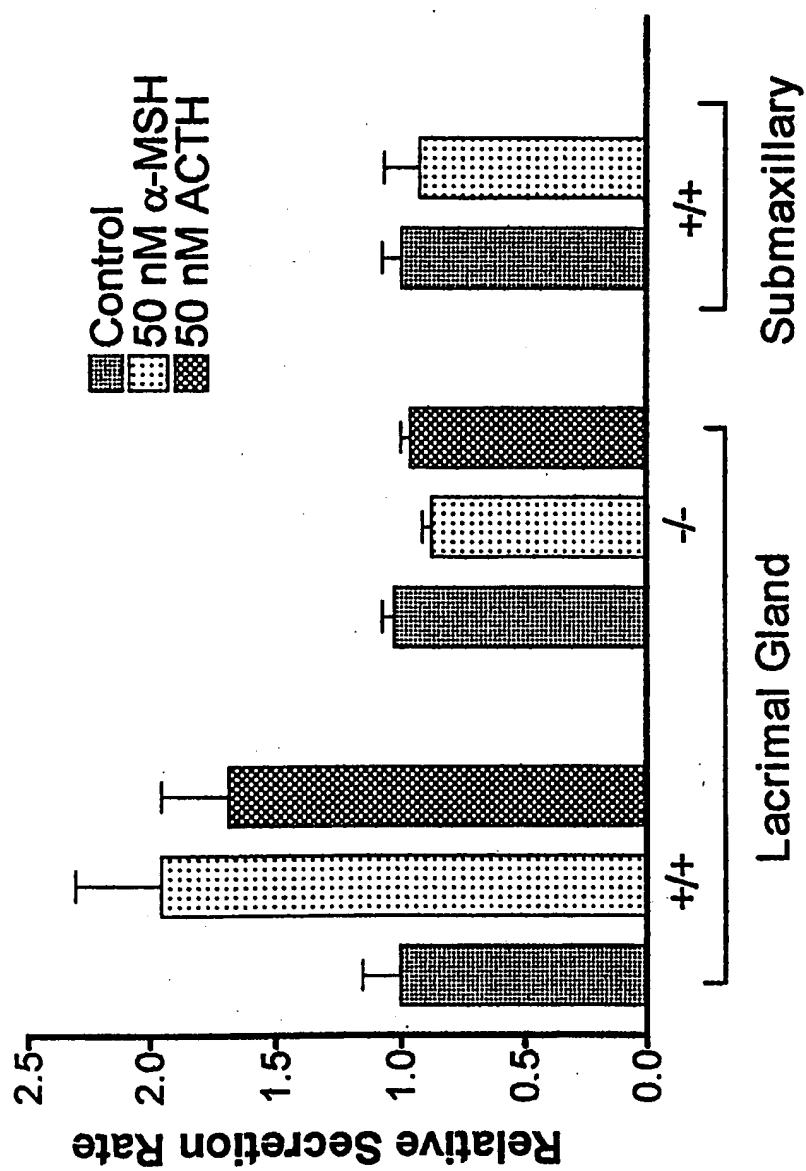
FIG. 21B
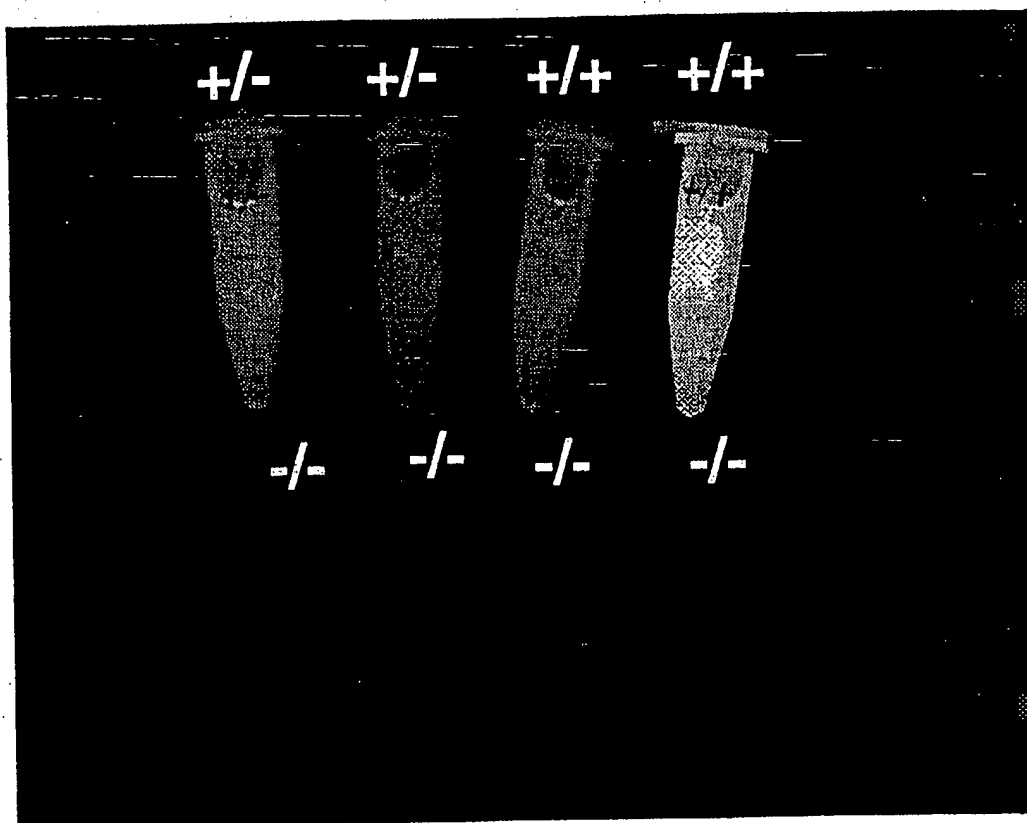
FIG. 22A

FIG. 22B

Absorbance Spectrum of Harderian Gland Extracts
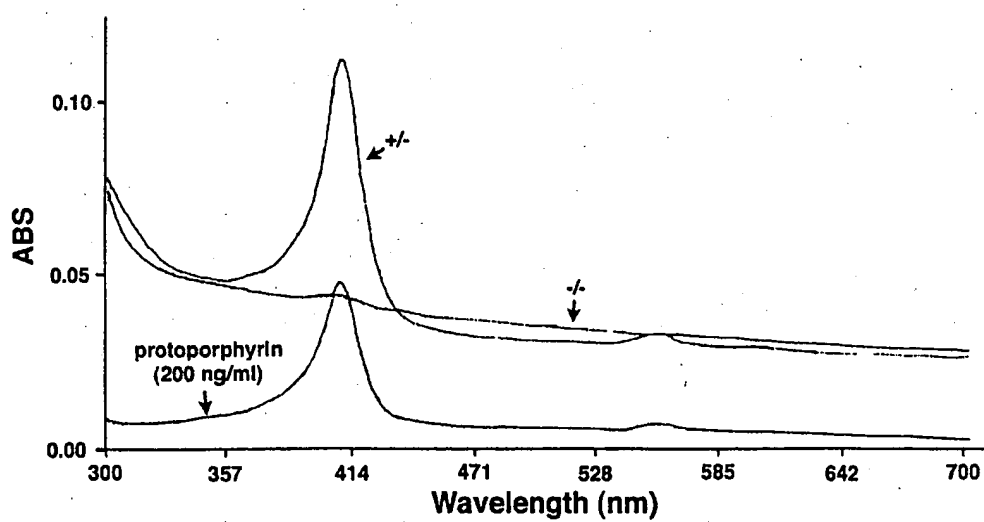
International Application No

PCT/US 98/12098

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6   C12N15/12   C12N15/00   A01K67/027   C12N5/10   C07K14/72
        G01N33/566   G01N33/74

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6   C07K   A01K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Y	see page 138, column 2, paragraph 2 - page 139, column 1, paragraph 3	1-36
Y	LABBE O ET AL: "MOLECULAR CLONING OF A MOUSE MELANOCORTIN 5 RECEPTOR GENE WIDELY EXPRESSED IN PERIPHERAL TISSUES" BIOCHEMISTRY, vol. 33, 1994, pages 4543-4549, XP002051985 cited in the application see the whole document	21,28,33

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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.   [X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
9 November 1998	24/11/1998

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Chambonnet, F

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication,where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Y	MOUNTJOY K G ET AL: "THE CLONING OF A FAMILY OF GENES THAT ENCODE THE MELANOCORTIN RECEPTORS" SCIENCE, vol. 257, 28 August 1992, pages 1248-1251, XP002051982 cited in the application see the whole document	1-20,22, 24-36
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Y,P	see the whole document	20-35
P,X	WO 97 47316 A (MILLENNIUM PHARMACEUTICALS INC) 18 December 1997	20,21
P,Y	see claim 29	1-22, 24-36
P,X	WO 98 10068 A (UNIV OREGON HEALTH SCIENCES ;FAN WEI (US); LU DONGSI (US); BOSTON) 12 March 1998 see the whole document	36

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